

CITY OF BETHLEHEM

2020-2024 Consolidated Plan

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Executive Summary

ES-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

The City of Bethlehem has prepared this Five-Year Consolidated Plan to identify housing and community development needs and to develop specific goals and objectives to address those needs over a five-year period. This Five-Year Consolidated Plan for the City covers the period of January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2024. The Consolidated Plan allows the City to continue to receive federal housing and community development funds as a direct Entitlement from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). In order to continue to receive these funds for fiscal year 2020, the City of Bethlehem must submit a Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2020 Annual Action Plan to HUD. The 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan stipulates that the City's Department of Community and Economic Development will administer the community development programs for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Programs.

The FY 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan describes to HUD and our community how the City of Bethlehem intends to use federal and non-federal resources to meet community needs. The funds are intended to provide low- and moderate-income households with viable communities by addressing HUD's three objectives to: 1. Provide decent housing, 2. Create a suitable living environment, and 3. Create economic opportunities. Eligible activities include community facilities and improvements, roads and infrastructure, housing rehabilitation and preservation, development activities, public services, economic development, planning, and administration.

Community Development Block Grant funds to address the needs outlined in this Plan are anticipated to be approximately \$1.3 million for each of the next five years. HOME funds are estimated to be \$400,000 per year.

2. Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment Overview

Bethlehem intends to make full use of the flexibility inherent in the CDBG program to address the myriad of needs identified throughout our community. Additionally, CDBG efforts will be coordinated with the housing support available through the HOME program.

Starting with the 2020 Annual Action Plan that is part of this Consolidated Plan and continuing with the four Action Plans to follow in subsequent years, Bethlehem will identify specific goals to be met each year and the specific activities that will be supported to achieve those goals.

The overall needs, identified through extensive community input for this and other related plans, that will be addressed over the next five years are:

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- Improve existing housing stock, both rental and owner-occupied
- Increase home ownership opportunities
- Improve public spaces, including parks, streets and other infrastructure
- Enhance public safety through services and environmental improvements such as lighting
- Support economic development, including infrastructure improvements to commercial areas serving nearby residential neighborhoods and through support for commercial facade improvements
- Support neighborhood stabilization efforts and blight elimination initiatives through increased code enforcement and property clearance or rehab programs
- Support a wide range of eligible public services and facilities, including affordable child care, before- and after-school programming, job readiness services, mental health services, child nutrition services, financial literacy programs (including foreclosure prevention) and food pantries and homeless shelters

3. Evaluation of past performance

As detailed in its Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPERs) submitted over the past five years, Bethlehem consistently operates CDBG and HOME programs that are timely, compliant and, most importantly, an asset to our residents, especially the City's most vulnerable residents.

Through occasional staff turnover and challenges to some of our community partners, Bethlehem has continued to direct HUD resources to address needs identified in our prior Consolidated Plan. Because the City recognizes the importance of HUD funding to our widespread efforts to move Bethlehem forward, the efficient and effective delivery of the CDBG and HOME programs is a priority for elected officials and staff alike.

4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process

Community input into this Consolidated Plan has taken place in a variety of ways.

First, there is the ongoing relationship that City Community & Economic Development staff maintains with a wide range of community partners, including non-profits and other City departments. This results in an ongoing and continuous feel for the needs of residents and the entities striving to meet those needs.

Next, there are community meetings specifically designed to shape this plan. On August 27, 2019, a public hearing was held to solicit input on community needs. A second public hearing was held on October 10, 2019 to allow input into the first draft of the Consolidated Plan.

In addition to these direct methods of public participation in this process, Bethlehem has recently undertaken two very relevant community dialogues, one directed at a specific geographic area and one directed at an emerging citywide issue that Bethlehem wishes to address before it worsens.

Demo

The Bethlehem Blight Betterment (B3) Initiative, brought together a wide representation of City stakeholders - government, private sector and community - to assess the issue of blighted properties while the scope of the problem is still manageable. The B3 Initiative report was completed in 2018 and made recommendations that are incorporated in this Consolidated Plan.

Likewise, the City concluded a Northside 2027 Neighborhood Plan process in the summer of 2019. Again, a broad segment of stakeholders in the City's Northside neighborhood came together in various settings and through various means to identify neighborhood needs and strategies to address them. Because this area includes a significant number of low-mod income residents (roughly 55%) and because it's viability is important to the City as a whole, the findings and conclusions of the Northside 2027 plan helped shape this Consolidated Plan.

Taken altogether, these various forms of community dialogue mean that hundreds of Bethlehem residents, businesses, agencies and organizations helped direct the use of CDBG and HOME funds for the next five years.

5. Summary of public comments

Consensus of the various community input avenues detailed in the previous question resulted in the needs identified in Question 2 above.

Comments received during the two public hearings, included:

- The supply of affordable housing is not currently meeting the demand
- ADA improvements are not always successful in removing architectural barriers
- Renters requiring accessibility improvements find it difficult to convince landlords to make accommodations for them
- The number of owner-occupied homes is continually declining
- The quality and condition of housing is on the decline
- The impact of climate change is accelerating the deterioration of the housing stock
- Fewer and fewer organizations are offering programming for youth
- College students are increasing demand for rental housing and therefore driving up rents

6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them

All comments were accepted.

7. Summary

In part by coordinating the Consolidated Plan process with other pertinent planning efforts in the City and by incorporating the City staff's experience in operating the CDBG and HOME programs, the City of Bethlehem believes it has developed a workable, effective road map for the use of HUD resources over

Demo

the next five years, one that maximizes the impact of those resources to improve the lives of our residents.

The Process

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies 24 CFR 91.200(b)

1. Describe agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source

The following are the agencies/entities responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	BETHLEHEM	
CDBG Administrator		Department of Community and Economic Development
HOME Administrator		Department of Community and Economic Development
ESG Administrator		

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The City of Bethlehem's Department of Community and Economic Development is responsible for the Consolidated Plan and the administration of the grants. The City is not a recipient of Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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PR-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.110, 91.200(b), 91.300(b), 91.215(I) and 91.315(I)

1. Introduction

The City of Bethlehem has prepared a Five-Year Consolidated Plan in order to strategically implement the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, which funds housing, community development and economic development activities within the municipality. Through a collaborative planning process that involved a broad range of public and private agencies, the City has developed a single, consolidated planning and application document for the use of federal entitlement funds available through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The City will submit this Five Year Consolidated Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Consultation for the development of this Consolidated Plan has taken place in a variety of ways.

First, there is the ongoing relationship that City Community & Economic Development staff maintains with a wide range of community partners, including non-profits and other City departments. This results in an ongoing and continuous feel for the needs of residents and the entities striving to meet those needs.

Next, there are community meetings specifically designed to shape this plan. On August 27, 2019, a public hearing was held to solicit input on community needs. A second public hearing was held on October 10, 2019 to allow input into the first draft of the Consolidated Plan. An additional hearing is anticipated for Spring 2020, once the annual funding levels have been announced and activities and allocations can be fine-tuned.

In addition to these direct methods of public participation in this process, Bethlehem has recently undertaken two very relevant community dialogues, one directed at a specific geographic area and one directed at an emerging citywide issue that Bethlehem wishes to address before it worsens.

The Bethlehem Blight Betterment (B3) Initiative, brought together a wide representation of City stakeholders - government, private sector and community - to assess the issue of blighted properties while the scope of the problem is still manageable. The B3 Initiative report was completed in 2018 and made recommendations that are incorporated in this Consolidated Plan.

Likewise, the City concluded a Northside 2027 Neighborhood Plan process in the summer of 2019. Again, a broad segment of stakeholders in the City's Northside neighborhood came together in various settings and through various means to identify neighborhood needs and strategies to address them. Because this area includes a significant number of low-mod income residents (roughly 55%) and because it's viability is important to the City as a whole, the findings and conclusions of the Northside 2027 plan helped shape this Consolidated Plan.

Taken altogether, these various forms of community dialogue mean that hundreds of Bethlehem residents, businesses, agencies and organizations helped direct the use of CDBG and HOME funds for the next five years.

Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction's activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(I)).

During community dialogues around this Consolidated Plan and the related City-led efforts known as the Northside 2027 Neighborhood Plan and the Bethlehem Blight Betterment (B3) Initiative, the City engaged a wide range of stakeholders in the process of shaping the City's future. Those conversations, including Consolidated Plan public hearings plus numerous focus groups and public presentations connected to the other plans, provided an opportunity for the various community segments - including housing providers and an array of service providers - to share perspectives on meshing resources with needs. Participants included private and governmental health, mental health and other service agencies.

As the City goes forward over the next five years implementing both this Consolidated Plan and other community development initiatives, the opportunities will continue for the City to serve as a conduit of information among the various stakeholder groups contributing to these efforts. The City will affirmatively seek to strengthen these joint efforts through information exchange, coordination of services and the facilitation of networking opportunities.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness

The City of Bethlehem participates in the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board, which is part of the Eastern Pennsylvania Continuum of Care and is charged with devising a community plan meant to organize and deliver housing and services to meet the specific needs of people who are homeless as they move to stable housing and maximum self-sufficiency, particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and unaccompanied youth.

Each year, a Point-in-Time Count is made of the persons residing in shelter and transitional housing facilities and living unsheltered in each county. No data is collected specific to the City of Bethlehem. Data in Plan narratives are taken from the Lehigh County and Northampton County Point-in-Time Counts.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards and evaluate outcomes, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the administration of HMIS

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The City of Bethlehem participates in the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board, which is part of the Eastern Pennsylvania Continuum of Care. Through those channels, the City has input in determining how to allocate regional ESG funds, develop performance standards and evaluate outcomes, and develop funding policies and procedures related to homeless services and systems.

2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdictions consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	YWCA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public services
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Bethlehem's Community & Economic Development Department maintains an ongoing relationship with a wide range of local and regional organizations and government entities. Additionally, the YWCA is a long-time partner with Bethlehem's CDBG program and the agency participated in the public hearing process of this Plan.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	LEHIGH VALLEY CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Persons with Disabilities Service-Fair Housing Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public service needs
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Bethlehem's Community & Economic Development Department maintains an ongoing relationship with a wide range of local and regional organizations and government entities. Additionally, the LVCIL is a long-time partner with Bethlehem's CDBG and HOME programs and the agency participated in the public hearing process of this Plan.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Moravian Development Corp.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Bethlehem's Community & Economic Development Department maintains an ongoing relationship with a wide range of local and regional organizations and government entities. Additionally, Moravian Housing is a long-time partner with Bethlehem's CDBG and HOME programs and the agency participated in the public hearing process of this Plan.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	Habitat for Humanity of the Lehigh Valley
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Bethlehem's Community & Economic Development Department maintains an ongoing relationship with a wide range of local and regional organizations and government entities. Additionally, Habitat of the Lehigh Valley is a long-time partner with Bethlehem's HOME program and the agency participated in the public hearing process of this Plan.
5	Agency/Group/Organization	Greater Valley YMCA - Bethlehem Branch
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Health Services-Education Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public services
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Bethlehem's Community & Economic Development Department maintains an ongoing relationship with a wide range of local and regional organizations and government entities. Additionally, the YMCA is a long-time partner with Bethlehem's CDBG and HOME programs and the agency participated in the public hearing process of this Plan.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	ARTSQUEST
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Education

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Public services and facilities
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	As an applicant for CDBG funding, ArtsQuest provided an assessment of community needs from their perspective as a service provider and facility operator.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Bethlehem Food Co-op
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	As an applicant for CDBG funding, the Bethlehem Food Co-op provided an assessment of community needs from their perspective as a planned community-owned grocery store. Co-op representatives also participated in the Northside 2027 planning process that helped shape this Consolidated Plan.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	Bethlehem Area Public Library
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public services and facilities
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	As an applicant for CDBG funding, the Bethlehem Area Public Library provided an assessment of community needs from their perspective as an important public facility and service provider.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Anti-poverty Strategy

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	CACLV is a long-time partner in Bethlehem's CDBG program. As an applicant for CDBG funding, CACLV provided an assessment of community needs from their perspective as a service provider. CACLV also participated in the Northside 2027 planning process that helped shape this Consolidated Plan.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Action Development Corporation of Bethlehem
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public services
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	As an applicant for CDBG funding, the organization provided an assessment of community needs from their perspective as a service provider.
11	Agency/Group/Organization	Hispanic Center of the Lehigh Valley
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public services
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	As an applicant for CDBG funding, the Hispanic Center of the Lehigh Valley provided an assessment of community needs from their perspective as a facility operator and service provider. The Hispanic Center has been a partner with the City's CDBG program for several years.
12	Agency/Group/Organization	Catholic Senior Housing
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	As an applicant for CDBG funding, Catholic Senior Housing provided an assessment of community needs from their perspective as a provider of affordable housing.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	Center for Humanistic Change
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public services
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	As an applicant for CDBG funding, the Center for Humanistic Change provided an assessment of community needs from their perspective as a service provider. The organization is among the wide range of local organizations with whom Bethlehem's Community & Economic Development Department maintains an ongoing relationship.
14	Agency/Group/Organization	Hogar Crea - Bethlehem
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-homeless Services-Health Health Agency Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public services
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	As an applicant for CDBG funding, Hogar Crea provided an assessment of community needs from their perspective as a service provider.
15	Agency/Group/Organization	EPISCOPAL MINISTRIES OF THE DIOCESE OF BETHLEHEM, INC./D.B.A. New Bethany Ministries
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities

Demo

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public services
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	As an applicant for CDBG funding, New Bethany Ministries provided an assessment of community needs from their perspective as a service provider.
16	Agency/Group/Organization	North Penn Legal Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Service-Fair Housing Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public services
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	As an applicant for CDBG funding, North Penn Legal provided an assessment of community needs from their perspective as a service provider. The organization is a long-time partner with the City's CDBG program and among the wide range of local organizations with whom Bethlehem's Community & Economic Development Department maintains an ongoing relationship.
17	Agency/Group/Organization	BETHLEHEM REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Other government - Local Planning organization Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Redevelopment Authority of the City of Bethlehem is a long-time partner in the operation of the City's CDBG program and a major component of Bethlehem's economic development efforts. Frequent interaction between the RDA and the Department of Community & Economic Development provides a mutual understanding of the City's needs in the areas of blight reduction, economic development and housing as well as the roles of the two government entities in meeting them.
18	Agency/Group/Organization	ShareCare Faith in Action
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-Health Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public services
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	As an applicant for CDBG funding, ShareCare provided an assessment of community needs from their perspective as a service provider. The organization is a long-time partner with the City's CDBG program and among the wide range of local organizations with whom Bethlehem's Community & Economic Development Department maintains an ongoing relationship.
19	Agency/Group/Organization	The Salvation Army (Bethlehem Corps)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing dialogue between the organization and the City's Community Development Program. This organization was funded as part of the 2019 Annual Action Plan.

Demo

20	Agency/Group/Organization	NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES OF THE LV, INC
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Regional organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing dialogue between the organization and the City's Community Development Program.
21	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Bethlehem Department of Community and Economic Development
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Planning organization Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Lead-based Paint Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy Public services
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	This is the City department that operates the CDBG and HOME programs and maintains an ongoing dialogue regarding community needs with other city departments, with housing and service providers and with the community at large.
22	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Bethlehem Department of Planning and Zoning
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Planning organization Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy

	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing dialogue between the City's Community Development Program and another City department.
23	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Bethlehem Department of Public Works
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Other government - Local Public facilities and infrastructure Grantee Department
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public facilities, infrastructure and services
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ongoing dialogue between the City's Community Development Program and another City department.
24	Agency/Group/Organization	Southside Vision
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services-Employment Neighborhood Organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Economic Development
	How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	As an applicant for CDBG funding, Southside Vision provided an assessment of community needs from their perspective as a service provider. The organization is a long-time partner with the City's CDBG program and among the wide range of local organizations with whom Bethlehem's Community & Economic Development Department maintains an ongoing relationship.
25	Agency/Group/Organization	Northampton County Department of Corrections
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Publicly Funded Institution/System of Care Other government - County

<p>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</p>	<p>Housing Need Assessment</p>
<p>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</p>	<p>Participates on the Regional Homeless Advisory Board with the Reentry Coordinator for the Department of Corrections. The DOC and City discuss housing needs of those leaving prison and how we can secure stable housing within the city for this population.</p>

Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Eastern Pennsylvania CoC	With input into CoC functions through the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board, Bethlehem helps shape CoC plans and identifies opportunities for CDBG funds to complement CoC efforts.
Northside 2027 Neighborhood Plan	City of Bethlehem	Community input and needs analysis for the portion of the City covered by this plan resulted in proposed actions that, in turn, helped shape overall goals for the City's CDBG and HOME programs for the next 5 years. The City is planning to designate this neighborhood a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area under the CDBG program to enhance that program's impact on this neighborhood.
Bethlehem Blight Betterment (B3) Initiative	City of Bethlehem	Community input, analysis and recommendations contained in this plan provided some direction for CDBG community development efforts citywide, particularly in the areas of neighborhood stabilization and land use and re-use possibilities.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Describe cooperation and coordination with other public entities, including the State and any adjacent units of general local government, in the implementation of the Consolidated Plan (91.215(I))

Bethlehem is located in both Lehigh County and Northampton County and is informed of community development efforts on the county level in both instances. Care is taken to avoid duplication of efforts, particularly with those sub-recipients who receive support from 2 or more of these CDBG entitlements.

Demo

Similarly, the City is aware of Pennsylvania's CDBG and HOME program plans and is of the opinion that this Consolidated Plan is consistent with state efforts regarding those programs.

Narrative (optional):

Through the multi-pronged efforts described above, Bethlehem believes it has collected a wide range of community perspectives and information that has provided the City with the breadth and depth of information needed to produce a comprehensive strategy, presented in this Consolidated Plan, for applying CDBG and HOME resources in an efficient, effective and coordinated Community Development program.

PR-15 Citizen Participation – 91.105, 91.115, 91.200(c) and 91.300(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

With a foundation of community dialogue built through the Northside 2027 Neighborhood Plan and the citywide Bethlehem Blight Betterment (B3) Initiative, the City added input and review options specific to this Consolidated Plan and its component 2020 Action Plan by:

- Holding a public hearing in August 2019 to further explore and identify community needs, especially those that could fall within the purview of the CDBG and HOME programs
- Holding a public hearing in October 2019 to review the first draft of this plan

The consensus of community input and data analysis were used to set the overarching goals of this Consolidated Plan as:

- Improve existing housing stock, both rental and owner-occupied
- Increase home ownership opportunities
- Improve public spaces, including parks, streets and other infrastructure
- Enhance public safety through services and environmental improvements such as lighting
- Support economic development, including infrastructure improvements to commercial areas serving nearby residential neighborhoods and through support for commercial facade improvements
- Support neighborhood stabilization efforts and blight elimination initiatives through increased code enforcement and property clearance or rehab programs
- Support a wide range of eligible public services and facilities, including affordable child care, before- and after-school programming, job readiness services, mental health services, child nutrition services, financial literacy programs (including foreclosure prevention) and food pantries and homeless shelters.

This section also includes a description of the citizen participation process of the Northside 2027 Plan. Specifically, working groups, public meetings and a community survey.

For additional information on the citizen participation process, see page 34 and Appendix A on page 92.

Demo

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
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Demo

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
1	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	Held August 27, 2019, this hearing was attended by 7 people.	Comments from the public included:- The supply of affordable housing is not currently meeting the demand; - ADA improvements are not always successful in removing architectural barriers;- Renters requiring accessibility improvements find it difficult to convince landlords to make accommodations for them;- The number of owner-occupied homes is continually declining;- The quality and condition of housing is on the decline;- The impact of climate change is accelerating the deterioration of the housing stock;- Fewer and fewer organizations are offering programming for	All comments were accepted.	
Consolidated Plan		BETHLEHEM			26	

Demo

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
2	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/broad community	Held October 10, 2019, this hearing was attended by Alicia Karner, Director of Bethlehem's Department of Community and Economic Development.	No one from the public or stakeholder organizations attended the public hearing.	All comments were accepted.	
3	Northside 2027 Neighborhood Plan Kick Off Meeting	Residents and other stakeholders of the City's Northside neighborhood	Held on October 11, 2018, more than 40 residents attended a meeting to solicit feedback on issues such as the housing market, neighborhood economic vitality, fostering a sense of place.	A consensus of the community input specific to this neighborhood is similar to the final consensus on community needs elaborated upon above.	All comments were accepted.	

Demo

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
4	Northside 2027 Neighborhood Plan Kick Off Meeting	Citywide consideration of blighted properties	Completed in 2018, this undertaking including extensive data analysis and community dialogue around the growing, but still manageable, issue of blighted properties citywide. A steering committee and multiple community input opportunities resulted in a comprehensive consensus on the scope of the problem and potential solutions.	Recommendations included coordinating City resources, including Community Development resources such as CDBG and HOME.	All comments were accepted.	

Demo

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
5	Northside 2027 Neighborhood Plan Kick Off Meeting	Residents of Public and Assisted Housing Residents of Northside	Held on November 28, 2018, The Northside 2027 consultant and committee met with residents in one on one sessions, walked the neighborhood and held a public meeting.	Open-ended feedback at the first community meeting generally aligned with these guiding principles, and from there the plan framework was developed. Additional concerns brought up by community members included the areas lack of an identity, pedestrian safety issues, a lack of convenient grocery options, and a lack of neighborhood cohesion.	All comments were received.	

Demo

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)
7	Northside 2027 Neighborhood Plan Kick Off Meeting	Northside Neighborhood	112 residents of the Northside responded to the survey.	The most popular suggested programs and investments were affordable childcare, high quality extracurricular programs, home repair grants, and better access to mental health resources. These priorities were then included in the plan framework.	All comments were received.	

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Needs Assessment

NA-05 Overview

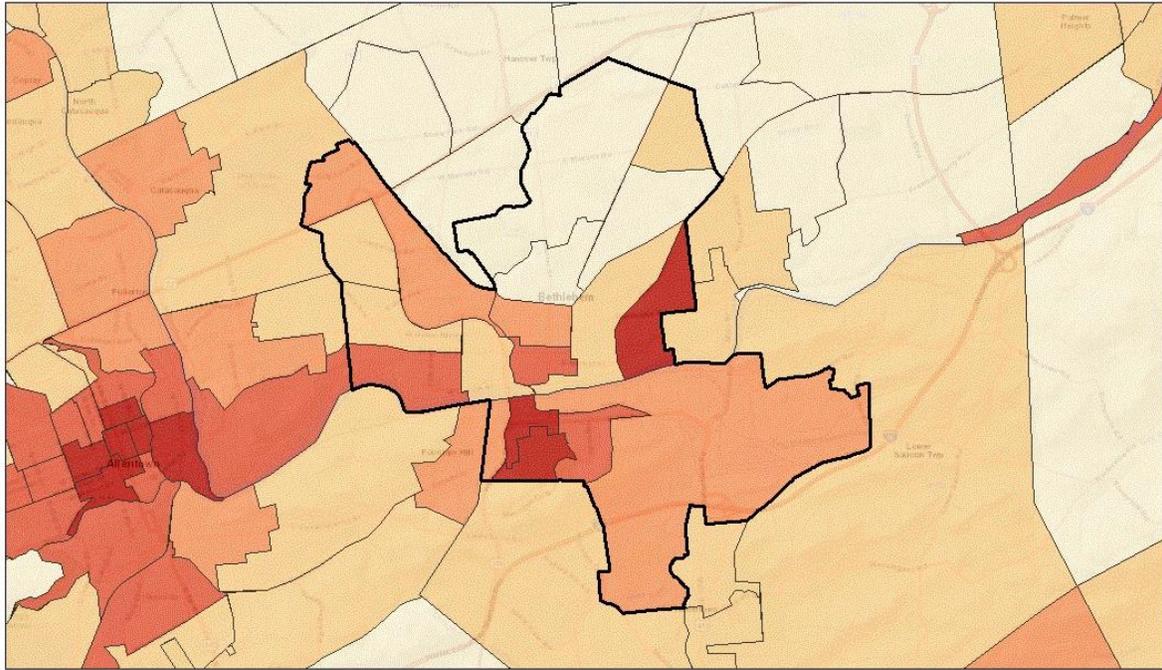
Needs Assessment Overview

During the five year period covered by the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, the City of Bethlehem will undertake the following activities to address its various housing and community development needs:

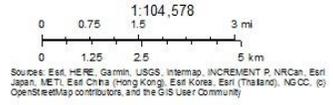
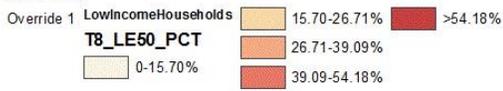
- Improve existing housing stock, both rental and owner-occupied
- Increase home ownership opportunities
- Improve public spaces, including parks, streets and other infrastructure
- Enhance public safety through services and environmental improvements such as lighting
- Support economic development, including infrastructure improvements to commercial areas serving nearby residential neighborhoods and through support for commercial facade improvements
- Support neighborhood stabilization efforts and blight elimination initiatives through increased code enforcement and property clearance or rehab programs
- Support a wide range of eligible public services and facilities, including affordable child care, before- and after-school programming, job readiness services, mental health services, child nutrition services, financial literacy programs (including foreclosure prevention) and food pantries and homeless shelters

Demo

% Low Income Households -



September 19, 2019



% of Low Income Households

NA-10 Housing Needs Assessment - 24 CFR 91.205 (a,b,c)

Summary of Housing Needs

The City of Bethlehem has identified the following major housing needs as a result of this consolidated planning process:

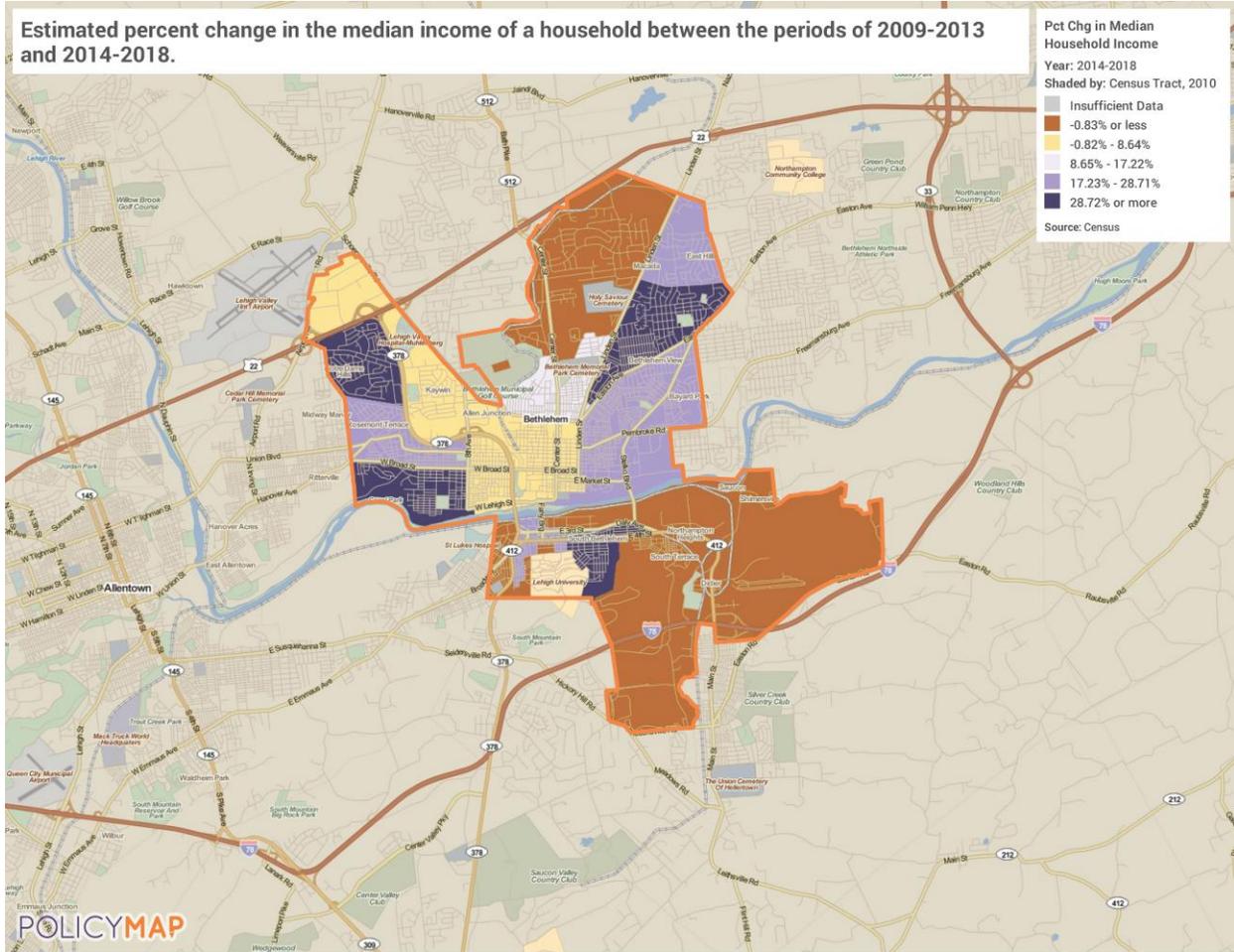
- Improve existing housing stock, both rental and owner-occupied;
- Increase home ownership opportunities; and
- Support neighborhood stabilization efforts and blight elimination initiatives through increased code enforcement and property clearance or rehab programs.

Demographics	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2015	% Change
Population	74,982	75,000	0%
Households	28,168	29,145	3%
Median Income	\$44,983.00	\$47,291.00	5%

Table 5 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics

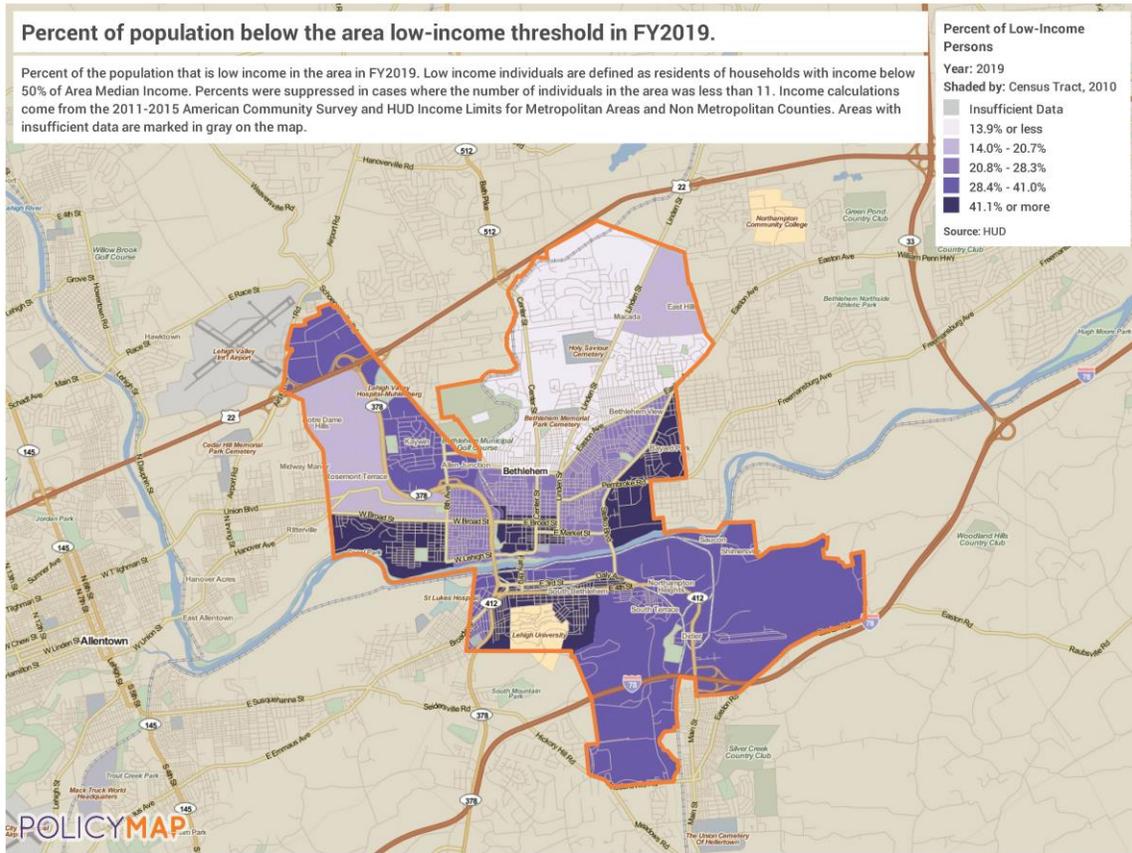
Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS (Base Year), 2011-2015 ACS (Most Recent Year)

Demo



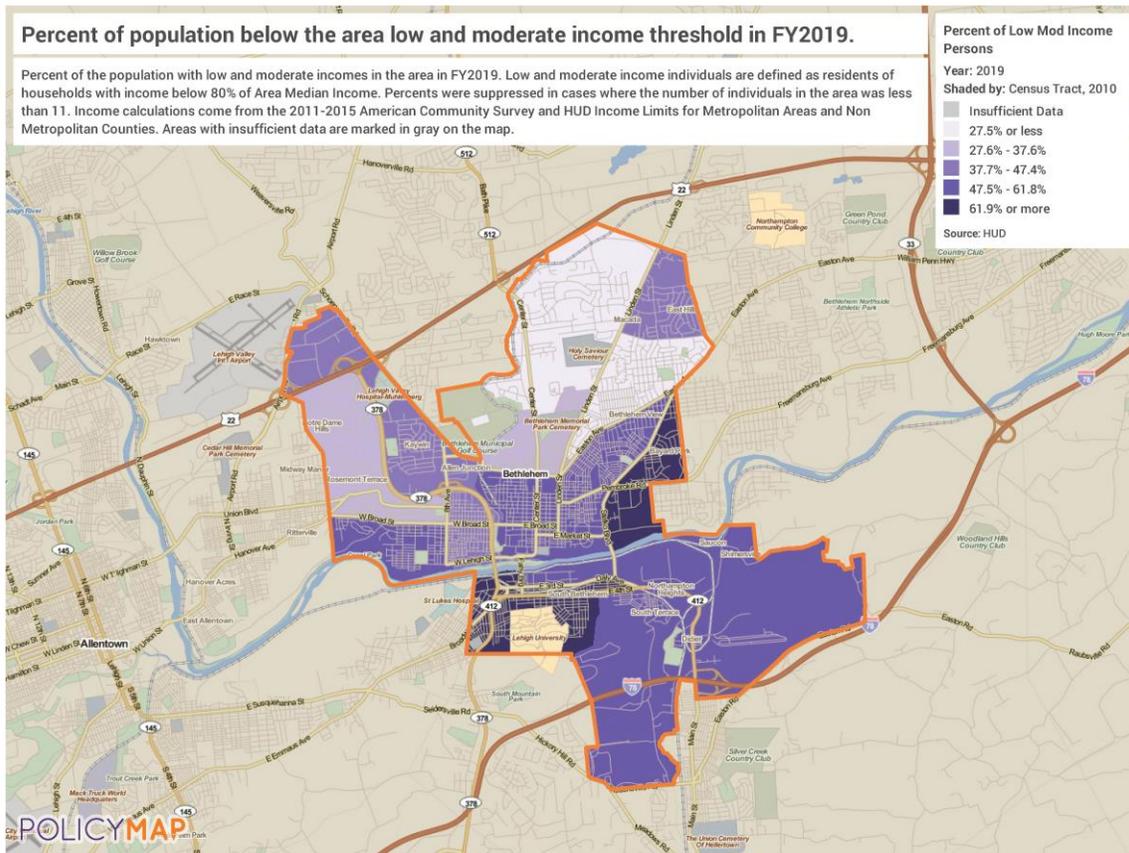
Estimated % change in the median income of a household btw 2009-2013 and 2014-2018

Demo



Percent of population below the area low-income threshold in FY2019

Demo



Percent of population below the area low and moderate income threshold in FY2019

Number of Households Table

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
Total Households	4,915	3,950	5,460	3,005	11,810
Small Family Households	1,610	1,130	1,975	1,055	5,285
Large Family Households	230	280	460	285	645
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	845	950	1,125	585	2,480
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	710	1,005	795	300	1,090
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger	865	610	875	405	895

Table 6 - Total Households Table

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Housing Needs Summary Tables

1. Housing Problems (Households with one of the listed needs)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	100	15	55	0	170	20	0	25	0	45
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	35	20	59	25	139	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	50	65	35	25	175	0	20	10	4	34
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	2,335	840	130	0	3,305	710	410	230	50	1,400
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	605	980	1,565	325	3,475	155	510	710	450	1,825

Demo

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	130	0	0	0	130	60	0	0	0	60

Table 7 – Housing Problems Table

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

2. Housing Problems 2 (Households with one or more Severe Housing Problems: Lacks kitchen or complete plumbing, severe overcrowding, severe cost burden)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Having 1 or more of four housing problems	2,520	945	285	50	3,800	730	430	265	55	1,480
Having none of four housing problems	1,290	1,625	2,790	1,290	6,995	185	950	2,130	1,605	4,870
Household has negative income, but none of the other housing problems	130	0	0	0	130	60	0	0	0	60

Table 8 – Housing Problems 2

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

3. Cost Burden > 30%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	1,225	745	700	2,670	195	220	315	730
Large Related	129	185	129	443	70	18	115	203
Elderly	604	429	374	1,407	359	600	290	1,249

Demo

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Other	1,095	545	585	2,225	250	84	230	564
Total need by income	3,053	1,904	1,788	6,745	874	922	950	2,746

Table 9 – Cost Burden > 30%

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

4. Cost Burden > 50%

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS								
Small Related	1,025	345	40	1,410	160	115	75	350
Large Related	125	105	4	234	70	8	25	103
Elderly	390	240	34	664	224	250	95	569
Other	920	215	50	1,185	250	35	40	325
Total need by income	2,460	905	128	3,493	704	408	235	1,347

Table 10 – Cost Burden > 50%

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

5. Crowding (More than one person per room)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS										
Single family households	85	75	64	50	274	0	20	10	4	34
Multiple, unrelated family households	0	10	4	0	14	0	0	0	0	0
Other, non-family households	0	0	25	0	25	0	0	0	0	0
Total need by income	85	85	93	50	313	0	20	10	4	34

Table 11 – Crowding Information – 1/2

Data 2011-2015 CHAS
Source:

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
Households with Children Present	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 12 – Crowding Information – 2/2

Data Source
Comments:

Describe the number and type of single person households in need of housing assistance.

According to the 2014-2018 American Community Survey, 33.7 percent (9,757) of all households in Bethlehem are single person households. Applying that percentage to the cost burden issues noted above indicates that some 1,553 single-person households pay more than 50% of their income for housing and that an additional 1,749 single-person households pay more than 30% of their income for housing.

Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance who are disabled or victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

According to the 2013 – 2017 American Community Survey, Bethlehem has 10,409 persons or 13.8% of the population reported having a disability. The largest age cohort reporting a disability are people 75 and over, 43.5% of those 75 and over reported having a disability. The second largest cohort is for persons aged 65 to 74 of which 25.1% of those 65 to 74 report having a disability. The largest cohort number wise are those from 35 to 64 which make up 39.8% of those with disabilities, however only 16.1% of those with between 35 to 64 reported having a disability. Slightly less than half of the disabled population in Bethlehem (5,060 people) or 7.2% of the population are disabled with ambulatory difficulty, meaning they require handicapped-accessible housing.

The following are issues faced by individuals with disabilities in securing housing:

- Affordable, safe and appropriate housing
- More home modification programs for those who acquire a disability as they age or through accident or illness
- Accessible housing, particularly for those with severe disabilities
- Assistance with rental and security deposits
- Varying levels of supportive services adaptable to individual requirements
- Effective pathways to ensure consumer information on existing housing and services programs
- Services for those who are dually-diagnosed

- Outreach to individuals who resist or cannot access the traditional mental health service system

What are the most common housing problems?

The cost of housing in Bethlehem is the most common housing problem. 4,840 households pay more than 50% of household income on housing in Bethlehem. A total of 9,491 households pay more than 30% of their income for housing costs.

Are any populations/household types more affected than others by these problems?

Of the households that are cost burdened >30% of income on housing, 71.1% of those are renters, and of renters the plurality of those households are small-related households, and regarding income groups the plurality has an income of 0-30% AMI. Of those owners the group with the plurality cost burdened are the elderly, and the income group with the most cost-burdened households is 0-30% AMI. Though the group with the greatest number of cost-burdened owners are elderly households with an income of 30-50% of AMI.

Of the households that are cost burdened by over 50% of their income, 72.2% of those are renters. The majority of renters with over 50% cost burden are in the 0-30% AMI group, and the household type with the greatest amount of cost-burdened renters are small-related households. Of those owners, the group with the plurality of households that are cost burdened by more than 50% of their income are the elderly, and the income group with the most cost-burdened >50% households is 0-30% AMI. Though the group with the greatest number of cost-burdened >50% owners are elderly households with an income of 30-50% of AMI.

Describe the characteristics and needs of Low-income individuals and families with children (especially extremely low-income) who are currently housed but are at imminent risk of either residing in shelters or becoming unsheltered 91.205(c)/91.305(c)). Also discuss the needs of formerly homeless families and individuals who are receiving rapid re-housing assistance and are nearing the termination of that assistance

As previously noted, one of the most common housing problems is affordable housing. Affordable housing is defined as paying no more than 30% of gross income for monthly housing expenses, including mortgage, utilities, insurance and taxes, or rent and utilities, regardless of income level. However, when households spend more than 30% of their income on housing, it is considered excessive and these households are classified as cost-burdened.

When households pay higher proportions of their income for housing, they may be forced to sacrifice other basic necessities such as food, clothing or health care. Additionally, cost-burdened households

may have trouble maintaining their dwelling. Cost-burden is of particular concern among low and moderate income households, who overall have fewer housing choices.

If a jurisdiction provides estimates of the at-risk population(s), it should also include a description of the operational definition of the at-risk group and the methodology used to generate the estimates:

No such estimate has been calculated.

Specify particular housing characteristics that have been linked with instability and an increased risk of homelessness

According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, the following are reasons why people become homeless:

- Lack of income to meet the basic needs of housing, food, clothing and transportation;
- Health problems and disability;
- Lack of affordability or inventory of affordable housing;
- Persons that are victim to domestic violence.

Discussion

NA-15 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

Introduction

During the five year period covered by the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, the City of Bethlehem will undertake the following activities to address its various housing and community development needs:

- Improve existing housing stock, both rental and owner-occupied
- Increase home ownership opportunities
- Improve public spaces, including parks, streets and other infrastructure
- Enhance public safety through services and environmental improvements such as lighting
- Support economic development, including infrastructure improvements to commercial areas serving nearby residential neighborhoods and through support for commercial facade improvements
- Support neighborhood stabilization efforts and blight elimination initiatives through increased code enforcement and property clearance or rehab programs
- Support a wide range of eligible public services and facilities, including affordable child care, before- and after-school programming, job readiness services, mental health services, child nutrition services, financial literacy programs (including foreclosure prevention) and food pantries and homeless shelters

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	4,015	715	190
White	1,935	345	110
Black / African American	335	55	0
Asian	74	15	10
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	1,565	299	65

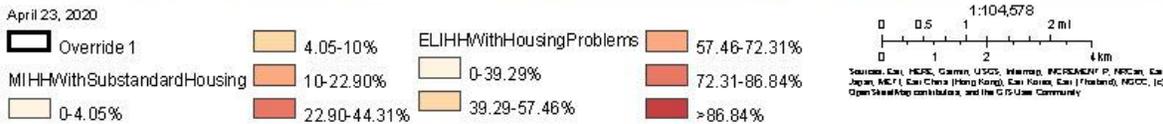
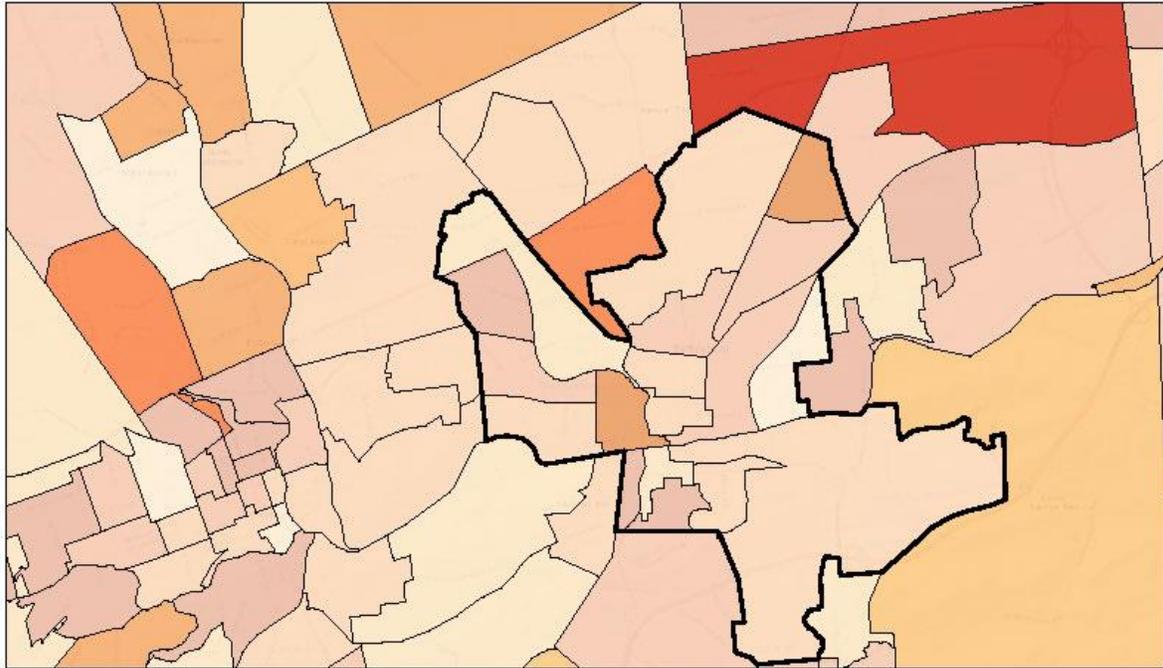
Table 13 - Disproportionally Greater Need 0 - 30% AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

Bethlehem City - Pct of Extremely-Low Income Households with Any of the 4 Severe Housing Problems



Pct of Extremely-Low Income Households with Any of the 4 Severe Housing Problems

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	2,865	1,085	0
White	1,645	775	0
Black / African American	135	10	0
Asian	70	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	910	295	0

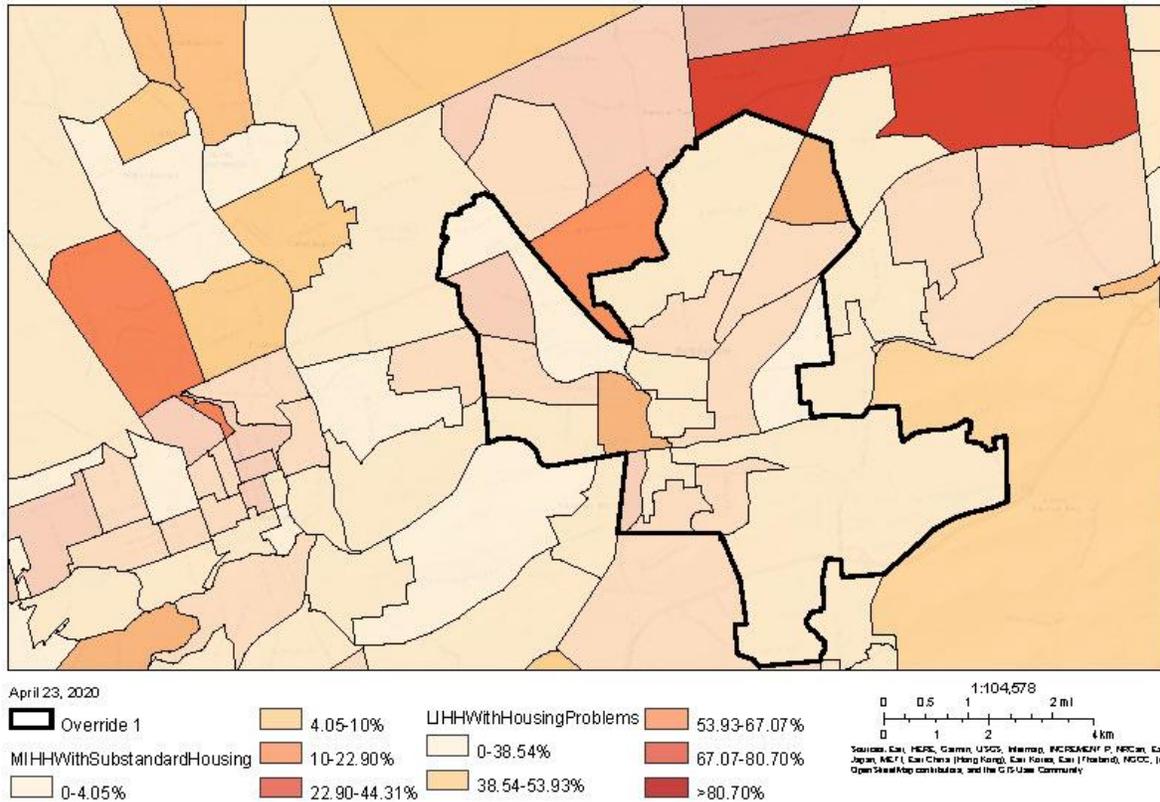
Table 14 - Disproportionally Greater Need 30 - 50% AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than one person per room, 4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

Bethlehem City - Pct of Low Income Households with Any of the 4 Severe Housing Problems



Pct of Low Income Households with Any of the 4 Severe Housing Problems

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	2,820	2,645	0
White	1,735	1,725	0
Black / African American	220	99	0
Asian	65	49	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	10	4	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	755	715	0

Table 15 - Disproportionally Greater Need 50 - 80% AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Housing Problems	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	885	2,120	0
White	695	1,565	0
Black / African American	35	120	0
Asian	15	0	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	35	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	125	279	0

Table 16 - Disproportionally Greater Need 80 - 100% AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

*The four housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than one person per room,
4. Cost Burden greater than 30%

Discussion

NA-20 Disproportionately Greater Need: Severe Housing Problems – 91.205 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

Introduction

Before evaluating the “Disproportionate Greater Need for Housing Problems” regardless of the heading: Housing Problems, Severe Housing Problems or Cost Burden for racial or ethnic groups, we must first examine the ratio of these groups within the overall population of the City of Bethlehem. According to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates the City has a population of 75,240, of which, 45,227 (60.1%) are White, 4,442 (5.9%) are Black/ African American, 2,219 (2.9%) are Asian, 52 (.1%) are American Indian/ Alaska Native and 21,455 (28.5%) are Hispanic. An additional 1,845(2.4%) are identified as Other or Two or more races.

0%-30% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	3,250	1,475	190
White	1,675	600	110
Black / African American	310	80	0
Asian	74	15	10
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	1,090	780	65

Table 17 – Severe Housing Problems 0 - 30% AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than 1.5 persons per room,
4. Cost Burden over 50%

30%-50% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	1,375	2,575	0
White	785	1,630	0
Black / African American	50	95	0
Asian	15	55	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	475	730	0

Table 18 – Severe Housing Problems 30 - 50% AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

50%-80% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	550	4,920	0
White	355	3,115	0
Black / African American	55	265	0
Asian	45	70	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	15	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	84	1,380	0

Table 19 – Severe Housing Problems 50 - 80% AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities, 2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities, 3. More than 1.5 persons per room, 4. Cost Burden over 50%

80%-100% of Area Median Income

Severe Housing Problems*	Has one or more of four housing problems	Has none of the four housing problems	Household has no/negative income, but none of the other housing problems
Jurisdiction as a whole	105	2,895	0
White	75	2,185	0
Black / African American	0	150	0
Asian	0	15	0
American Indian, Alaska Native	0	35	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0
Hispanic	29	375	0

Table 20 – Severe Housing Problems 80 - 100% AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

*The four severe housing problems are:

1. Lacks complete kitchen facilities,
2. Lacks complete plumbing facilities,
3. More than 1.5 persons per room,
4. Cost Burden over 50%

Discussion

The Housing Problems data shows that as incomes increase the percentage rates of white households making up the amount of households with housing problems also increases from 48.2% of those with an AMI of 0%-30% to 57% at the 30%-50% AMI level, 61.5% at the 50%-80% AMI level and 78.5 % of those in the 80%-100% AMI. Conversely, the percentage of Hispanic households decreases significantly within these categories from 39% of those with an AMI of 0%-30% to 31.8% at the 30%-50% AMI level, 26.8% at the 50%-80% AMI level and 14.1 % of those in the 80%-100% AMI. Black / African American statistics with each category remain rather consistent with ratios of 8.3%, 4.7%, 7.8% and 3.9%.

Taking the overall average of the four categories for each racial or ethnic group, it appears that there is no Disproportionate Greater Need for Housing Problems. The White population is 60.1% of the City, with the White portion of the Housing Problems being 61.3%. The Black / African American average proportion of the Housing Problems is 6.2% as compared to 5.9% of the population. For Asian the Housing Problems average ratio is 2.1% for 2.9% of the population and Hispanic has 28.5% of the population and 27.9% of the Housing Problems ratio.

The City therefore concludes that, with respect to overall Housing Problems, there is no significant disproportionate need with any racial or ethnic group.

NA-25 Disproportionately Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens – 91.205 (b)(2)

Assess the need of any racial or ethnic group that has disproportionately greater need in comparison to the needs of that category of need as a whole.

Introduction:

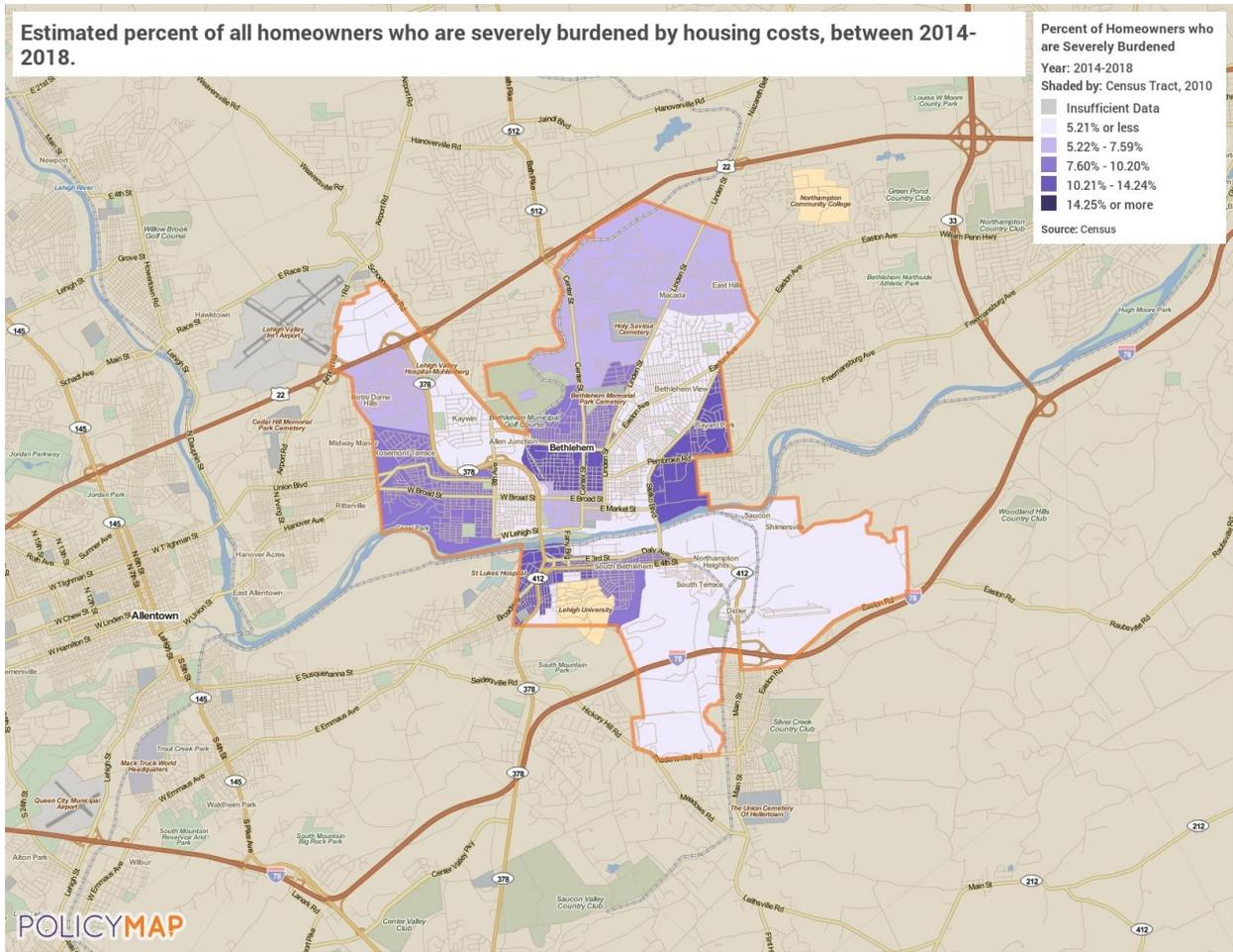
Refer to Introduction on form NA-15 Disproportionately greater Need: Housing Problems

Housing Cost Burden

Housing Cost Burden	<=30%	30-50%	>50%	No / negative income (not computed)
Jurisdiction as a whole	17,930	6,070	4,945	200
White	13,735	3,770	2,660	125
Black / African American	540	350	380	0
Asian	405	95	119	10
American Indian, Alaska Native	45	10	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Hispanic	2,840	1,750	1,610	65

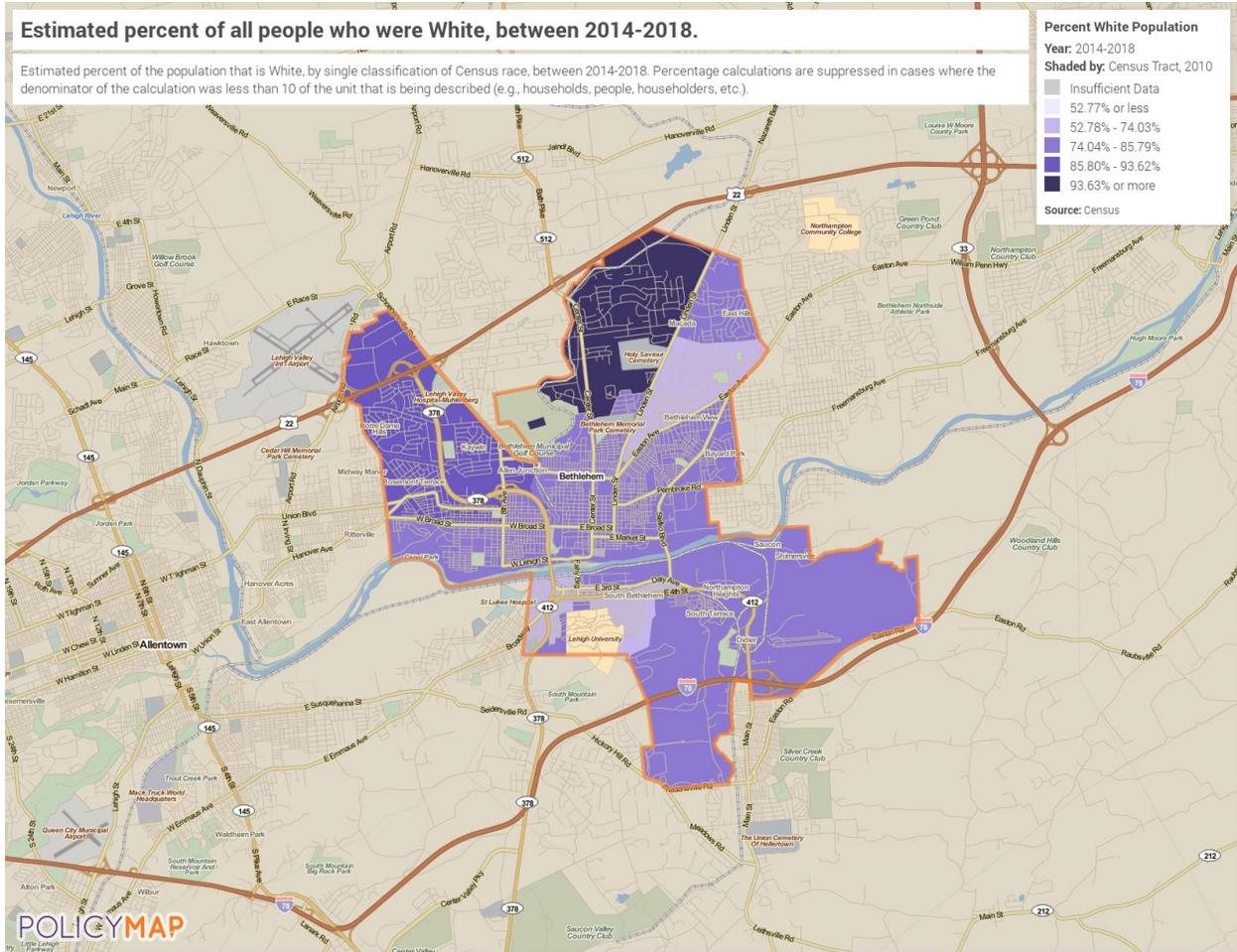
Table 21 – Greater Need: Housing Cost Burdens AMI

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS



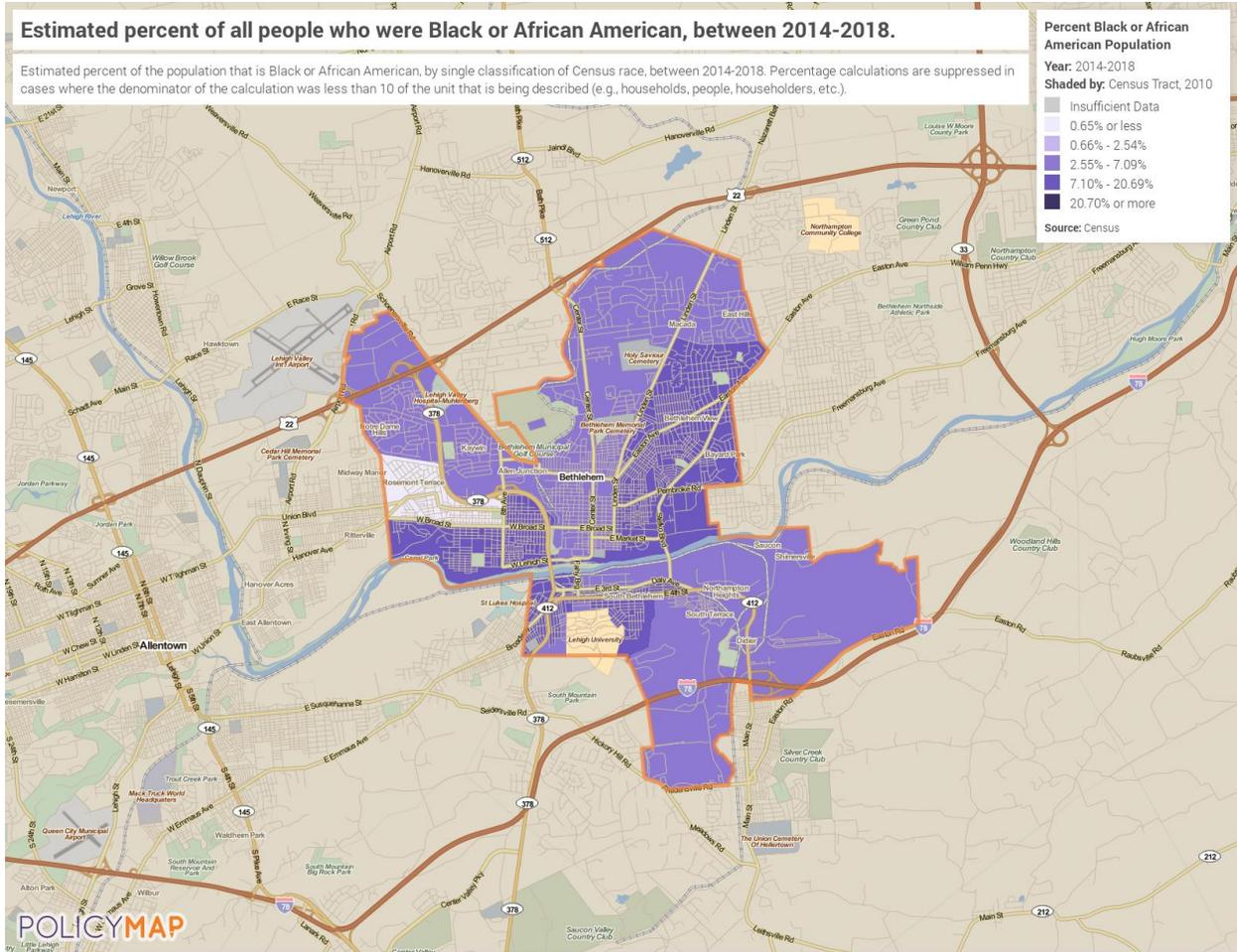
Estimated Percentage of All Households that are Housing Cost Burdened

Demo



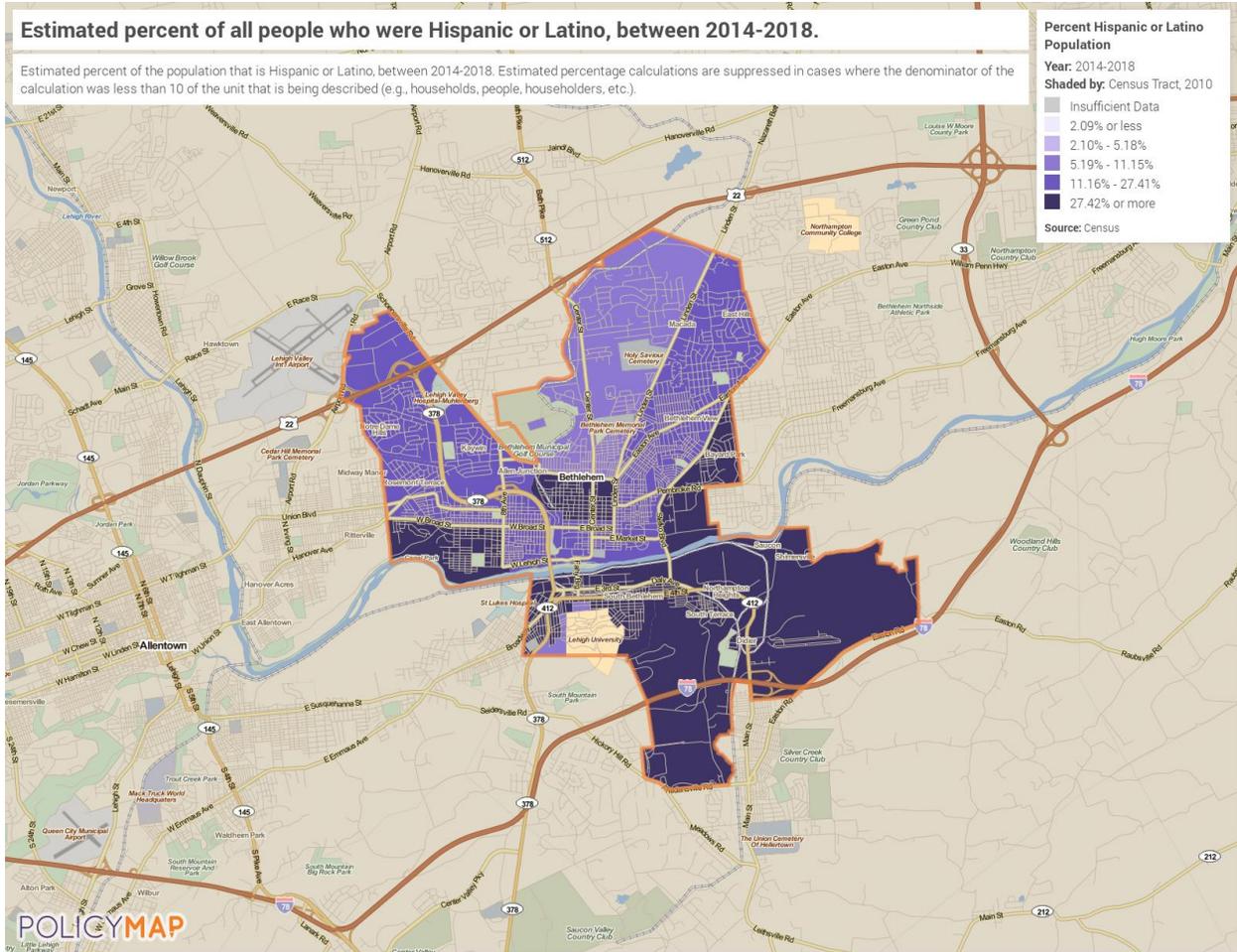
Estimated Pct of White Residents

Demo



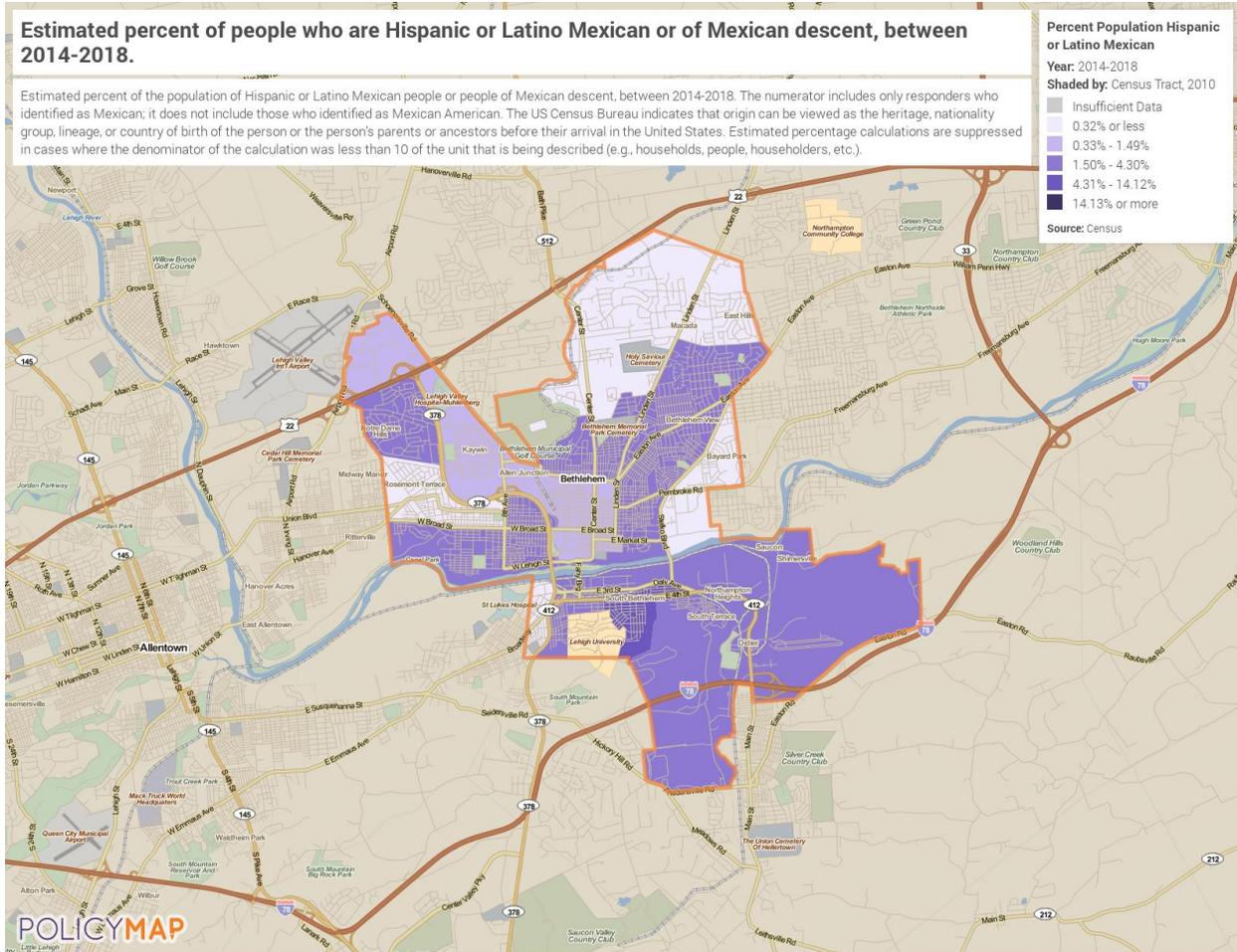
Estimated Pct of Black Residents

Demo



Estimated Pct of Hispanic/Latino Residents

Demo



Estimated Pct Residents of Mexican Descent

Discussion:

As a City, 38% of the households in Bethlehem pay over 30% of their income toward housing costs. Of those that are not cost-burdened 76.6% of them are White, of all white households the majority (68.1%) of them are not cost burdened. the only other racial or ethnic group where the majority of households are not cost burdened are Asian (65.4% non cost burdened) and American Indian and Alaska Native (81.8%). Both Hispanic (54.2%) and Black/African American (57.5%) have a majority of households in Bethlehem being cost burdened.

When just looking at the racial breakdown of those that are cost-burdened it correlates very close to the total percentage population rates of each race in Bethlehem as a whole. Of those cost burdened between 30-50% of their income, 62.1% are White, 5.8% are Black/African American, 1.6% are Asian, and 28.8% are Hispanic. Of those cost-burdened by over 50% of their income, the percentage of White households decreases a bit but remains the majority at 53.8%, Black/African-American increases slightly to 7.7%, Asian rises slightly to 2.4%, and Hispanic increases to 32.6%.

Demo

As stated, Black and Hispanic households have more households cost-burdened than not cost-burdened in Bethlehem. With the overall Bethlehem percentage of cost burden being 38%, and the Hispanic Cost Burden being 54.2% and the Black /African American cost burdened rate being 57.5%, it is clear that as a percentage of all residents, they are both disproportionately of greater need. Therefore, they are more likely to be cost-burdened than other groups are and have a disproportionately greater need.

NA-30 Disproportionately Greater Need: Discussion – 91.205(b)(2)

Are there any Income categories in which a racial or ethnic group has disproportionately greater need than the needs of that income category as a whole?

There are some instances where a disproportionately greater housing need exists among racial or ethnic groups in Bethlehem.

- Hispanic households have a disproportionately greater need in relation to housing problems compared to all other households earning between 0-30% of AMI. Approximately 39% of households earning between 0-30% of Area Median Income having one or more housing problems are Hispanic. Meanwhile among the general population, Hispanics make up approximately 28.5% of the population.
- White households have a disproportionately greater need in relation to housing problems compared to all other households earning between 80-100% of AMI. Approximately 78.5% of households earning between 80%-100% of Area Median Income that have one or more housing issues are White. Meanwhile among the general population, the White population makes up 60.1% of the population.
- White households have a disproportionately greater need in relation to severe housing problems compared to all other households earning between 80-100% of AMI. Approximately 78% of households earning between 50%-80% of Area Median Income that have one or more severe housing issue in Bethlehem are White. Meanwhile among the general population the White population makes up approximately 60.1% of population.

If they have needs not identified above, what are those needs?

Are any of those racial or ethnic groups located in specific areas or neighborhoods in your community?

The areas which are majority White are areas of the North and Westside, the only areas of the Southside that is majority White is the area including Lehigh University.

The areas that are predominantly Hispanic is the area directly east of Lehigh University and the area to the east of downtown, bordered on the to the east by Freemansburg.

NA-35 Public Housing – 91.205(b)

Introduction

The Bethlehem Housing Authority's current 5-Year Plan (2015-2019), remains the most recent comprehensive plan for its Public Housing Needs. While the City of Bethlehem is located in both Lehigh and Northampton Counties these county housing authorities do not have authorization to provide housing assistance within the City of Bethlehem. The Bethlehem Housing Authority supports the general objectives of HUD:

1. Expand the supply of assisted housing
2. Improve the quality of assisted housing
3. Increase assisted housing choices
4. Improve the quality of the environment
5. Promote self-sufficiency and a financial base for assisted households
6. Ensure equal opportunity housing for all

In the execution of these objectives there is a particular emphasis upon:

1. Seeking additional rental vouchers,
2. Acquiring or building units or developments
3. Modernizing public housing, and
4. Implementing better security measures.

The Bethlehem Housing Authority reported that its housing units are generally in good condition, and that rehabilitation needs were normal replacement and improvement of systems. Modernization and upgrades to units are planned in order to keep the housing stock in service.

The Bethlehem Housing Authority manages a total of 1,454 units in eleven Public Housing complexes; five with 450 units are designated specifically for the elderly and six with 1,004 units are designated for families.

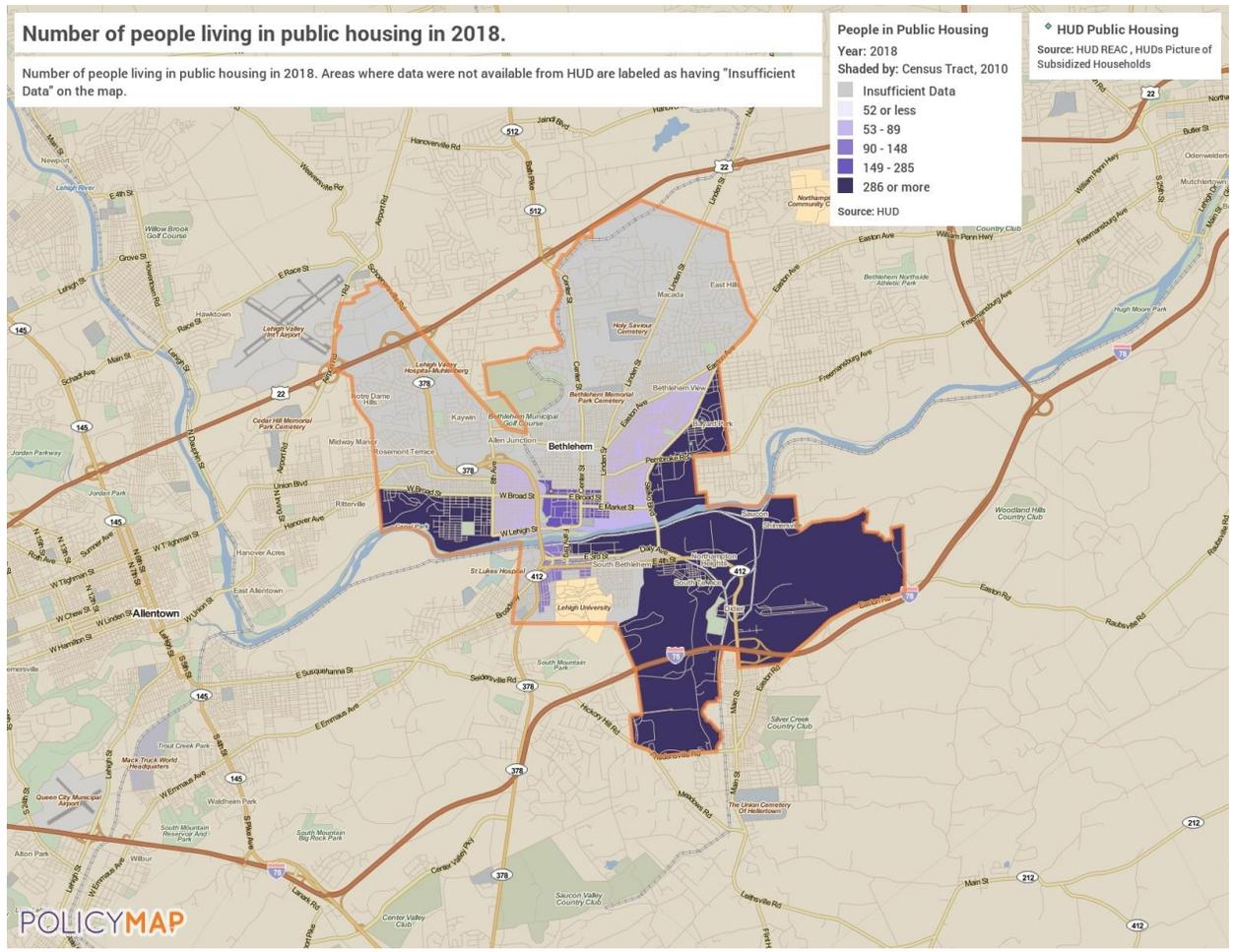
Totals in Use

	Program Type								
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
# of units vouchers in use	0	0	1,425	495	0	481	13	0	0

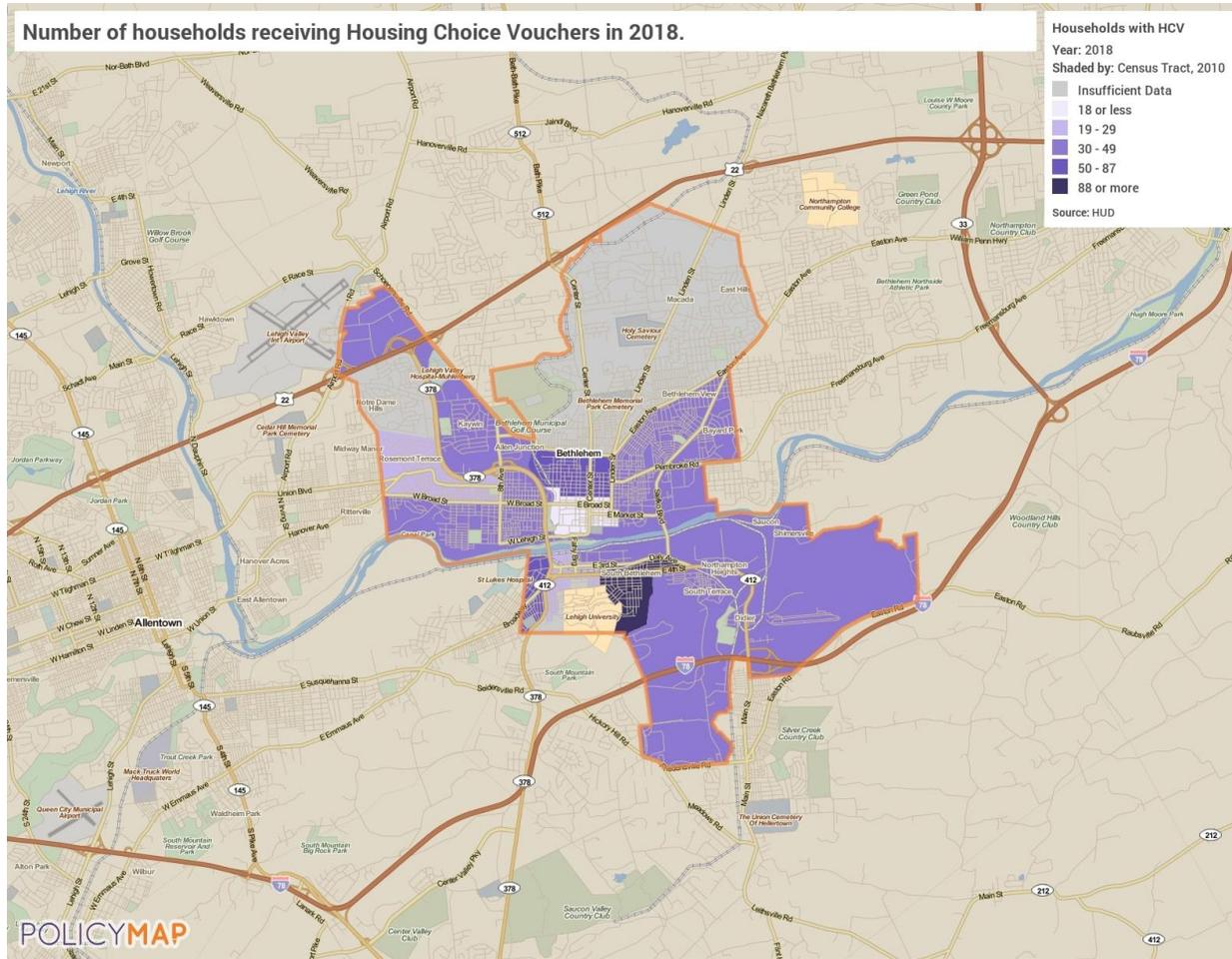
Table 22 - Public Housing by Program Type

***includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition**

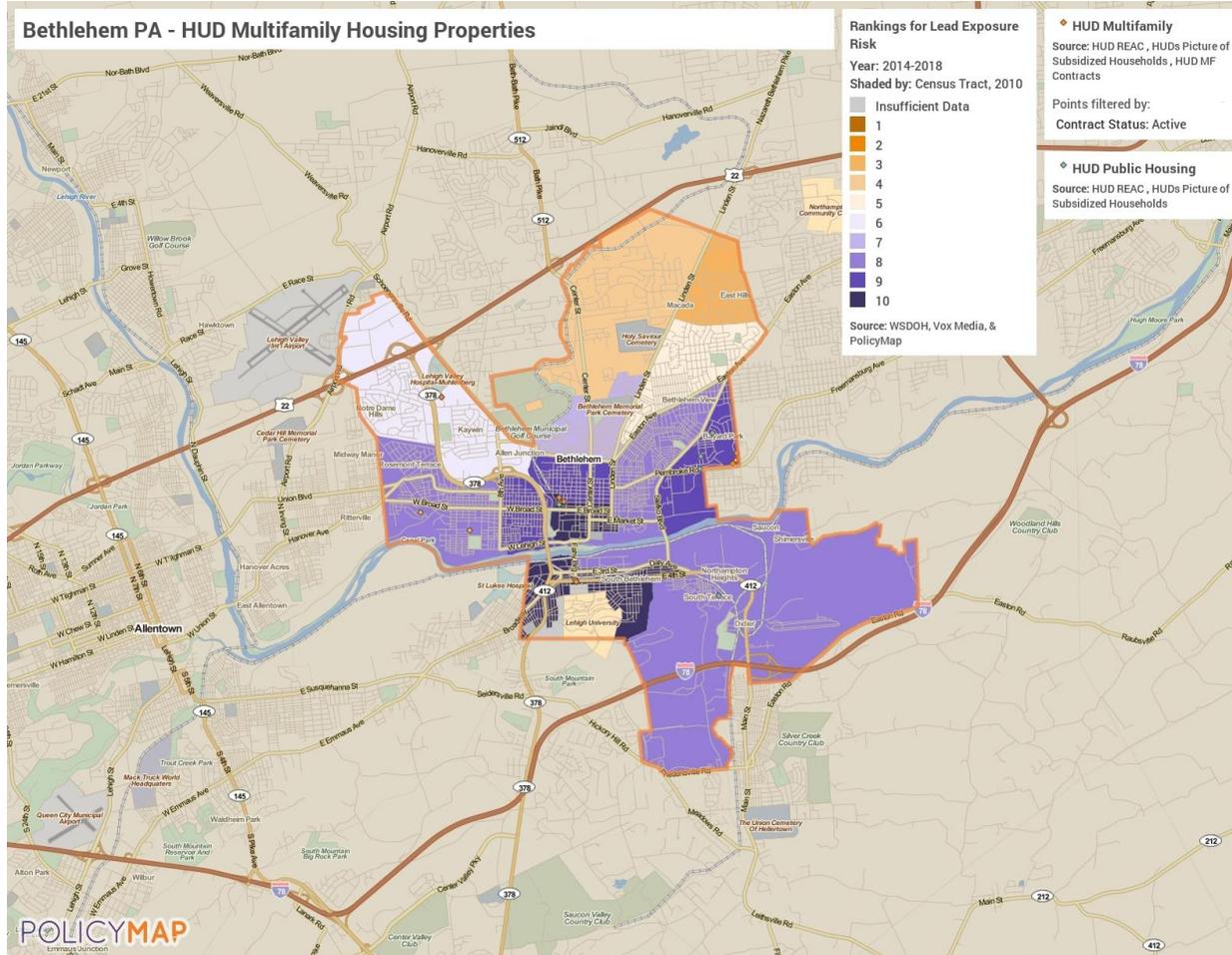
Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)



Public Housing Developments



Households Receiving Housing Choice Vouchers



HUD Multifamily Housing Developments

Characteristics of Residents

	Program Type							
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher	
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program
Average Annual Income	0	0	13,464	12,989	0	13,029	11,297	0
Average length of stay	0	0	8	6	0	6	0	0
Average Household size	0	0	2	2	0	2	1	0
# Homeless at admission	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
# of Elderly Program Participants (>62)	0	0	382	93	0	91	2	0
# of Disabled Families	0	0	460	201	0	194	7	0
# of Families requesting accessibility features	0	0	1,425	495	0	481	13	0
# of HIV/AIDS program participants	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of DV victims	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 23 – Characteristics of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Race of Residents

Race	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
White	0	0	1,308	397	0	388	8	0	0
Black/African American	0	0	111	95	0	90	5	0	0
Asian	0	0	6	2	0	2	0	0	0
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

***includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition**

Table 24 – Race of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Ethnicity of Residents

Ethnicity	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Program Type					
				Vouchers			Special Purpose Voucher		
				Total	Project - based	Tenant - based	Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *
Hispanic	0	0	1,012	276	0	270	5	0	0
Not Hispanic	0	0	413	219	0	211	8	0	0

***includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition**

Table 25 – Ethnicity of Public Housing Residents by Program Type

Demo

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

Section 504 Needs Assessment: Describe the needs of public housing tenants and applicants on the waiting list for accessible units:

Of the current public housing tenants, 13 have vouchers for Veterans affairs supportive housing, 661 have someone in their family disabled, and 1,920 request to have accessibility features in their units.

The most recent data shows there to be 1,613 applicants on the current Public Housing Waiting list and 575 applicants on the Housing Choice Voucher waiting list, which is currently closed.

According to the data from the 2015-2019 PHA 5 Year Annual Plan for the Bethlehem Housing Authority there were 1,827 applicants on the waiting list for public housing and 583 on the Section 8 tenant-based assistance waiting list. Of the public housing waiting list 71 applicants or 7% of those on the waiting list were families with disabilities and 170 or 9% were elderly families. Of the families on the Section 8 tenant-based assistance waiting list 262 or 44% of the applicants were families with disabilities, and 52 or 9% were elderly families.

Most immediate needs of residents of Public Housing and Housing Choice voucher holders

The most important needs are for education, social services and the ability to move to non-subsidized housing.

Since 2003, the Bethlehem Housing Authority made new homes available to public housing residents and Housing Choice Voucher Residents, all who were participants in the Family Self Sufficiency Program.

Additionally, the Bethlehem Housing Authority has an Affordable Housing Program and with BHA funding has partnered with Habitat for Humanity to provide materials for new homes, all sold to former Housing Authority residents. One of BHA's Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) residents has been renting a two-bedroom home purchased with Bethlehem Housing Authority Affordable Housing Program funds. This resident pays 30% of her income/assets to BHA with the balance of the Fair Market Rent paid to BHA by HUD.

The Housing Authority also has a Housing Choice Voucher Homeownership Program. The voucher holder purchases a home and receives mortgage assistance payments via the Authority's Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Interested families can also participate in financial counseling, education and assistance services provided by Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley (CACLV), Inc. These services are available to all low- and moderate-income residents and include home ownership counseling, predatory lending, mortgage foreclosure, individual development accounts, tenants and landlord rights, earning income and child care tax credits and tax preparation.

Demo

To assist those public housing residents that are prepared to become home owners, the City of Bethlehem also provides a Home Ownership Outreach Program (HOOP), administered by Neighborhood Housing Services of the Lehigh Valley (NHSLV). HOOP is designed to provide down payment and closing cost assistance to low- and moderate-income families and individuals seeking to purchase a home in the City.

How do these needs compare to the housing needs of the population at large

The population at large has the increased problem of finding affordable housing. Unlike those in Public Housing or the Housing Choice Voucher program, the greater public must find both affordable and properly maintained housing. In Bethlehem the competition for all housing is compounded by the number of college students (Lehigh University located in South Bethlehem) seeking housing.

Discussion

NA-40 Homeless Needs Assessment – 91.205(c)

Introduction:

The City of Bethlehem continues to cooperate with various social agencies, low-income housing advocates and affordable housing providers to address the underserved needs of area residents. Through the City’s continued participation in regional housing forums, most notably the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board (LV RHAB), Bethlehem works with service providers to address emergency shelter and transitional housing needs. The City is represented on the LV RHAB by its Housing and Community Development Planner.

In order to effectively meet the demand for homeless services, Homeless Assistance Program (HAP) funds are block granted to all 67 Pennsylvania counties. HAP funds help assure: 1. homelessness can be avoided through a variety of prevention services assisting clients to maintain affordable housing; 2. people who are homeless can find refuge and care; and 3. homeless and near homeless clients are assisted in moving toward self-sufficiency. City residents in Northampton County can access services through the Northampton County Department of Human Services in Bethlehem Township, while the residents within Lehigh County receive services through the Lehigh County Department of Aging and Adult Services in Bethlehem Township. In general, the City refers all applications for assistance, relative to homelessness, to the Eastern Pennsylvania Continuum of Care (CoC).

Homeless Needs Assessment

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Sheltered	Unsheltered				
Persons in Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	233	0	1,391	888	894	93
Persons in Households with Only Children	5	0	182	163	158	22
Persons in Households with Only Adults	246	90	1,847	1,258	1,171	50
Chronically Homeless Individuals	29	29	54	50	48	39

Demo

Population	Estimate the # of persons experiencing homelessness on a given night		Estimate the # experiencing homelessness each year	Estimate the # becoming homeless each year	Estimate the # exiting homelessness each year	Estimate the # of days persons experience homelessness
	Sheltered	Unsheltered				
Chronically Homeless Families	5	0	14	12	11	53
Veterans	37	1	219	155	163	99
Unaccompanied Child	28	12	182	163	158	22
Persons with HIV	2	0	17	10	11	81

Table 26 - Homeless Needs Assessment

Some of the Homeless Needs Assessment figures are only available at the County level. Specifically, these figures are a combination of Lehigh and Northampton Counties: Estimated Number Experiencing Homelessness Each Year; Estimated Number Becoming Homeless Each Year; Estimated Number Exiting Homelessness Each Year; and Estimated Number of Days Persons Experience Homelessness.

Data Source Comments:

Indicate if the homeless population is: Has No Rural Homeless

If data is not available for the categories "number of persons becoming and exiting homelessness each year," and "number of days that persons experience homelessness," describe these categories for each homeless population type (including chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth):

Nature and Extent of Homelessness: (Optional)

Race:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
White	288	72
Black or African American	139	14
Asian	0	1
American Indian or Alaska Native	6	0
Pacific Islander	1	0
Ethnicity:	Sheltered:	Unsheltered (optional)
Hispanic	162	9
Not Hispanic	314	81

Data Source
Comments:

Estimate the number and type of families in need of housing assistance for families with children and the families of veterans.

The data inserted in Table 22 – Homeless Needs Assessment was taken from the Eastern PA Continuum of Care 2019 Point-in-Time Count for the Lehigh Valley RHAB, which covers Lehigh and Northampton Counties. Data for individual cities is not available through the Point-in-Time Count; therefore, all figures in the Homeless Needs Assessment are for the Lehigh Valley RHAB.

The Lehigh Valley total of families with children on the night of the PIT Count includes 75 households (233 persons) of which 57 households are in Emergency Shelters and 18 households are in Transitional Housing. There were no unsheltered families. 323 individuals without children in the Lehigh Valley were identified as homeless on the night of the PIT Count (168 in emergency shelter, 75 in transitional housing, 80 unsheltered). 5 unaccompanied children under 18 were identified as homeless on the night of the PIT Count (1 in emergency shelter, 1 in transitional housing).

The two county Homeless Need for Veterans is cited as 37 sheltered and 1 unsheltered. It is estimated that 217 veterans experience homelessness each year and 155 veterans become homeless each year.

Describe the Nature and Extent of Homelessness by Racial and Ethnic Group.

Of the homeless sheltered and unsheltered in the above table for Lehigh and Northampton County, by race 69.1% were White and 29.4% were Black. When looking at ethnicity 30.2% are Hispanic and the remaining 69.8% are Non Hispanic.

Describe the Nature and Extent of Unsheltered and Sheltered Homelessness.

From the above table displaying a tabulation of the estimated amount of those experiencing homelessness on a given night, 81.6% were sheltered and 18.4% were unsheltered. Individuals in households with Adults and Children were all sheltered and as were households with just children. Half of the chronically homeless people were unsheltered, and 30% of unaccompanied children were unsheltered as well.

On the nature of extent of Homelessness table, of those sheltered 66.3% were White and 32% were Black. Of the unsheltered 82.8% were White.

Discussion:

NA-45 Non-Homeless Special Needs Assessment - 91.205 (b,d)

Introduction:

Certain population groups require supportive services and/or supportive housing, either on a permanent basis, or on a temporary basis. Many special needs populations are very low-income households (below 50% of Median Family Income) because they are not able to work or can only work part-time. Special population groups include the frail elderly, the physically and developmentally disabled, severely mentally ill persons, persons with HIV/AIDS, and those with substance abuse issues. Many disabled individuals rely on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for financial support. SSI provides income support to persons 65 years and over, the blind, and also the disabled.

Since so many special needs persons have limited incomes, finding affordable and accessible housing is often a serious challenge. Even when new affordable rental housing is developed, the rental rates for the housing units are often too high for many disabled persons.

One common concern among service providers and clients with special needs, is that more and larger housing units are needed to accommodate families taking care of the individuals with special needs. They suggest that many families would like to take care of their own family members with special needs, if supportive services, respite for caregivers and appropriate accommodations, such as barrier-free access, could be provided. Especially in the case for the physically disabled population and the population of persons with AIDS/HIV, much of the supportive housing that is available can only accommodate the individual with special needs, isolating him from the supportive environment of a family.

Another concern among clients and advocacy groups is that most housing programs/facilities fail to recognize the persons with special needs often have multiple special needs. For example, a significant percentage of persons with AIDS/HIV also have problems of substance abuse or mental illness. Most residential facilities are often targeted for single specific conditions, such as the mentally ill, the developmentally disabled or substance abusers.

Describe the characteristics of special needs populations in your community:

1. The Elderly and Frail Elderly

The number of elderly persons (65+) in Bethlehem as of the 2013-2017 American Community Survey estimate was 11,696, 15.5% of the population. This percentage is above the norm for the US, but below the norm for PA. The percentage of Frail Elderly (75+) in Bethlehem is 5,429 (7.2%) as compared to the

US figure of 5.9% and the PA figure of 7.7%. In general, the elderly resides in greater numbers in the North and West side of the City. None of the Southside has a senior population that exceeds 9.3% of the Census Tract and of all the tracts the average senior population is 6.2%. While on the Northside, except for the tract where Moravian College is, no tract has an over 65 percentage rate of under 10.9%, and the average for the Northside is 19.6% . On the West side there is also a sizeable elderly population with the five tracts not having a percentage lower than 10.6% and an average of 20.4%, 65 and over populations. The highest percentage of 65 and over in the City is 32.4% on the westside in the area bordered on the east side Scheonersville Rd, and on the west by Route 378 and on the North the area of Bethlehem adjacent on the east to Lehigh Valley Airport.

The frail/elderly are defined as those persons 75 and over and requiring assistance to perform two of three basic functions (housekeeping, preparing meals, assistance with dressing). The National Institute on Aging predicts that 40% of those over 75 require assistance. The number and percentage of elderly and frail elderly is expected to grow as the 65 to 74 age cohort is now 6,267 or 8.3% of the population.

2. Mental Illness

According to the U.S Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s Behavioral Health Barometer of Pennsylvania in 2015, 4% of Pennsylvania’s population age 18 and over suffer from severe mental health problems. 4% of Bethlehem’s population computes to an estimated 2,444 adults suffering from mental illness.

3. Physically Disabled

According to the 2013-2017 ACS Census estimates, there were 6,490 persons in Bethlehem between the ages of five and sixty-five that are considered Disabled & Non-Institutionalized. This figure includes those with mental and developmental disabilities, with an additional 3,647 over age 65.

4. Persons with Substance Abuse

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) 2018 Annual Report, 7.8% of the population 18 and over suffer from either an illicit drug or alcohol substance abuse disorder in 2018. In Bethlehem this would estimate the amount of people with a substance abuse disorder at 4,765 people.

5. Victims of Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence services and housing in Bethlehem are provided by Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley (TPLV) with two domestic violence shelters. TPLV is a safe place where victims of domestic violence and their children can find refuge. Turning Point’s mission is to work toward the elimination of domestic

violence; increase community awareness of the problem and empower victims by providing shelter and support services.

What are the housing and supportive service needs of these populations and how are these needs determined?

Discuss the size and characteristics of the population with HIV/AIDS and their families within the Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area:

The primary provider of housing and services to persons with AIDS is AIDSNET, a private, non-profit organization, which is one of seven federally-mandated HIV/AIDS coalitions in Pennsylvania. AIDSNET was founded on the premise that the best way to contain the HIV pandemic is through regional strategy. With an annual budget of approximately \$2 million, AIDSNET subcontracts with agencies throughout six counties, including Berks, Carbon, Monroe, Schuylkill, Lehigh and Northampton. According to the Pennsylvania Department of Health's Annual HIV Surveillance Summary Report in 2018, in the six county area there are currently 3,020 people currently living with HIV. Two thirds of those are men, and 40 percent are Hispanic, 34 percent are White and 21 percent are Black/African American. 58 percent of those that HIV in this area are 20-39 years of age. 48 percent of those with HIV reside in Lehigh and Northampton Counties.

Discussion:

NA-50 Non-Housing Community Development Needs – 91.215 (f)

Describe the jurisdiction’s need for Public Facilities:

The primary objectives of the City of Bethlehem’s non-housing community development activities are: 1) the provision of a suitable living environment and 2) the expansion of economic opportunity, for low- and moderate-income persons. These objectives include a wide range of programs and activities.

The City’s goals for maintaining and improving its community facilities include the following;

- Provide for Handicapped accessibility to all public facilities, including Town Hall, Main and Branch Libraries, City parks and recreation areas
- Provide high quality police, fire and emergency medical services, including the facilities from which they operate
- Provide enough attractive park land, improved trail corridors, and high-quality well-maintained recreation facilities to meet the needs of residents, students and visitors
- Provide assistance to quasi-public facilities that provide services to the low-income community, such as, Valley Youth House and Boys & Girls Club

Annually the City examines the condition of public facilities to determine the short- and long-term needs. For the Community Development Program these efforts center around the various low- and moderate-income neighborhoods. Neighborhood park and playground renovations, expansion of playground facilities and improvements specific to handicapped accessibility at all public buildings and facilities are undertaken each year.

How were these needs determined?

In addition to extensive reference to the City’s Comprehensive Plan, the Community Development needs and priorities were identified through the input of City Department Heads, the Mayor’s office, citizen participation, and requests and ideas from a wide range of service providers and public / quasi-public agencies. These inputs were provided in a series of meetings with the special subject groups, City Departments, and public hearings, described in the citizen participation section of this Plan. The City’s recent Comprehensive Plan was a significant asset in preparing this Consolidated Plan. The City’s Housing and Community Development Administrator has been in touch with Committee participants, City officials and Department heads, forwarding program information to them prior to meetings and hearings and has collected written comments and suggestions from each.

Describe the jurisdiction’s need for Public Improvements:

The City's goals for maintaining and improving its public improvements/infrastructure include the following:

- Fund and implement capital improvements needed to the water supply and the wastewater treatment systems
- Provide quality fire and emergency medical facilities that primarily serve the low-income neighborhoods
- Fund and implement right-of way improvements, including streets, curbs, sidewalks, street lighting and landscaping
- Preserve and strengthen the City's role as a major commercial, institutional and industrial job center in the Lehigh Valley
- Strengthen the City's role as a key destination for visitors, interested in cultural, historical and educational attractions
- Sustain a physical environment in and around the City's retail centers that projects vitality and encourages people to work, live and play in Bethlehem
- For purposes of this section of the Plan, Economic Development falls under Public Improvements. The City's Economic Development Program is known as the Bethlehem Small Business Loan Program, and Rising Tide Community Loan Fund is contracted to administer the activity. The program's primary goal is to create jobs for low income residents through business expansion or new business development. The City also provides funding to Community Action Development Corporation of Bethlehem to provide entrepreneurial programs and technical assistance to local small businesses.

How were these needs determined?

The City has also requested applications from City Departments and non-profit organizations for 2020 projects to be funded from the City of Bethlehem's FY 2020 CDBG Entitlement Program. Through this process, City Departments, neighborhood organizations and non-profit housing and social service providers indicated what projects were to be prioritized in terms of use of funds. The City has considered the many and varied needs, and the funding requested and applied the project selection process to evaluate needs and requests in light of the overall objectives.

As a result of community development requirements, the City has concentrated its Public Improvement attention in low income neighborhoods, primarily the Southside and designated neighborhoods on the Northside and Westside. These improvements, on an ongoing basis, include streets, sewer, water, storm drainage and bridge reconstruction. Engineering design for these activities is generally funded each year. The construction of curb cuts at intersections throughout the City are constructed or reconstructed with CDBG funds each five-year cycle to guarantee ADA compliance and City wide accessibility for the elderly and physically disabled residents.

Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services:

The City's goals for maintaining and improving its public services include the following;

- Provide high quality police, fire and emergency medical services, including the facilities from which they operate
- Maintain a comprehensive selection of recreation programs that serve a wide variety of interests and abilities, including sports, social, creative and instructional programs
- Provide assistance to small and medium size businesses to encourage expansion and increase employment for low- and moderate-income persons.

As a result of existing services (detailed below), the City has concentrated its Public Service attention to a narrow set of objectives, primarily public safety in low income neighborhoods and programs for low income youth, senior and families. Public services include Community Policing, Drug Surveillance (in low income neighborhoods), the Health Bureau's dental program, the youth programs of Embrace Your Dreams and the senior programs of ShareCare.

How were these needs determined?

The City has also requested applications from City Departments and non-profit organizations for 2020 projects to be funded from the FY 2020 CDBG Entitlement Program. Neighborhood organizations and non-profit social service providers indicated what projects were to be prioritized in terms of use of funds. As with the above, the City has considered the many and varied needs, and the funding requested in light of the overall objectives.

Presently the vast majority of Public Services are provided by the Northampton County and Lehigh County Departments of Human Services, local non-profits and faith-based organizations.

The County Departments of Human Services provide a wide variety of public services, including:

- Children, Youth and Families – Adoption Placement; Counseling; Day Care; Day Treatment; Foster Home Care; Residential Care; Group Home Care; Information and Referral; Protective Services-Child Abuse & General; Service/Case Management; Shelter Care; Independent Living Arrangements; Life Skills Education; Court-ordered Custody Evaluations & Supervised Visits
- Area Agency on Aging – Management of Individual's Care; Attendant Care; Recreational and social activities; Counseling; Housekeeping; Homemaker Services; Respite Care Services; Congregate and In-home Nutritional Programs; Adult Day Care; Home Health Care; Legal

Assistance; Protective Services; Transportation; Health Promotion Programs; Health Insurance Counseling

- Mental Health – Emergency/Crisis Intervention; Community & Crisis Residential, Community Employment; Training and Social Rehabilitation; Service and Intensive Case Management; Day Care; Family Support; Housing Support; Adult Development Training
- Mental Retardation – Adult Development; Vocational Rehabilitation; Community and Supported Employment; Residential, Family Support and Family Driven Support Services, Early Intervention; Case Management and Support; Training and Social Rehabilitation
- Drug and Alcohol – Prevention and Education; Detoxification; Counseling; Rehabilitation; Temporary Housing; Case Management; Intervention/Treatment
- Human Services Grants – Medical Assistance Transportation; Food Purchase and Emergency Food Assistance; Emergency Shelter; Temporary and Permanent Housing; Subsidized Day Care
- County Grant to Agencies – Visiting Nurses; Vision Impaired Aid; Children Services; Homemaker Services; Transportation for Persons with Disabilities; Housing for Abused Spouses
- Health Choices – Inpatient, Outpatient and Non-Hospital D&A; Outpatient Psychiatric; Behavioral Health Residential Services; Residential Treatment Facilities; Ancillary and Community Support; Other Medical Services
- The Northampton County Nursing Home : Gracedale

Housing Market Analysis

MA-05 Overview

Housing Market Analysis Overview:

The City of Bethlehem is a healthy and vibrant urban center that continues to reinvent itself with the changing times. As of the 2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimate, the population in the City of Bethlehem was 75,240, up 0.34% from 2010 Census estimate of 74,982. The racial makeup of the City is approximately (60.1%) White, 4,442 (5.9%) Black/ African American, 2,219 (2.9%) Asian, 52 (.1%) American Indian/ Alaska Native and 21,455 (28.5%) Hispanic. An additional 1,845(2.4%) are identified as Other or Two or more races.

The housing market in the City of Bethlehem is marked with healthy demand but with an aging housing stock. Currently there are approximately 31,260 housing units according to the 2013-2017 ACS 5-Year estimates. Of those units approximately 92.6% are occupied and 7.4% are vacant. The vacancy rate is slightly up since 2010 from 5.9%. The housing stock in Bethlehem is older compared to much of the county. 29.9% of the housing units were constructed prior to 1940, 51.7% of the housing stock was constructed between 1940 and 1979, and the remaining 18.4% was constructed after 1980. Only 6.4% was constructed in the last 17 years and 0.6% of housing units were constructed from 2010-2017, thus highlighting the historic nature of the majority of the housing units in Bethlehem.

As a result of the older housing stock, maintaining the units in good repair is an ongoing effort for the City of Bethlehem especially since approximately 48.3% of the units are renter occupied and 51.7% of the units are owner occupied. The homeownership rates are lower in the City of Bethlehem compared to the county. The homeownership rate in the City of Bethlehem has declined compared to the 2010 levels which had a homeownership rate of 53.6% and a renter occupied rate of 46.4%.

The urban and historic nature of Bethlehem lends itself to a greater number of attached units compared to its suburban counterparts. In 2017, the number of 1 unit detached units made up only 37.4% of the total housing stock. 29% of the units were 1 unit attached units and the remaining units ranged from 2 units to 20 units or more.

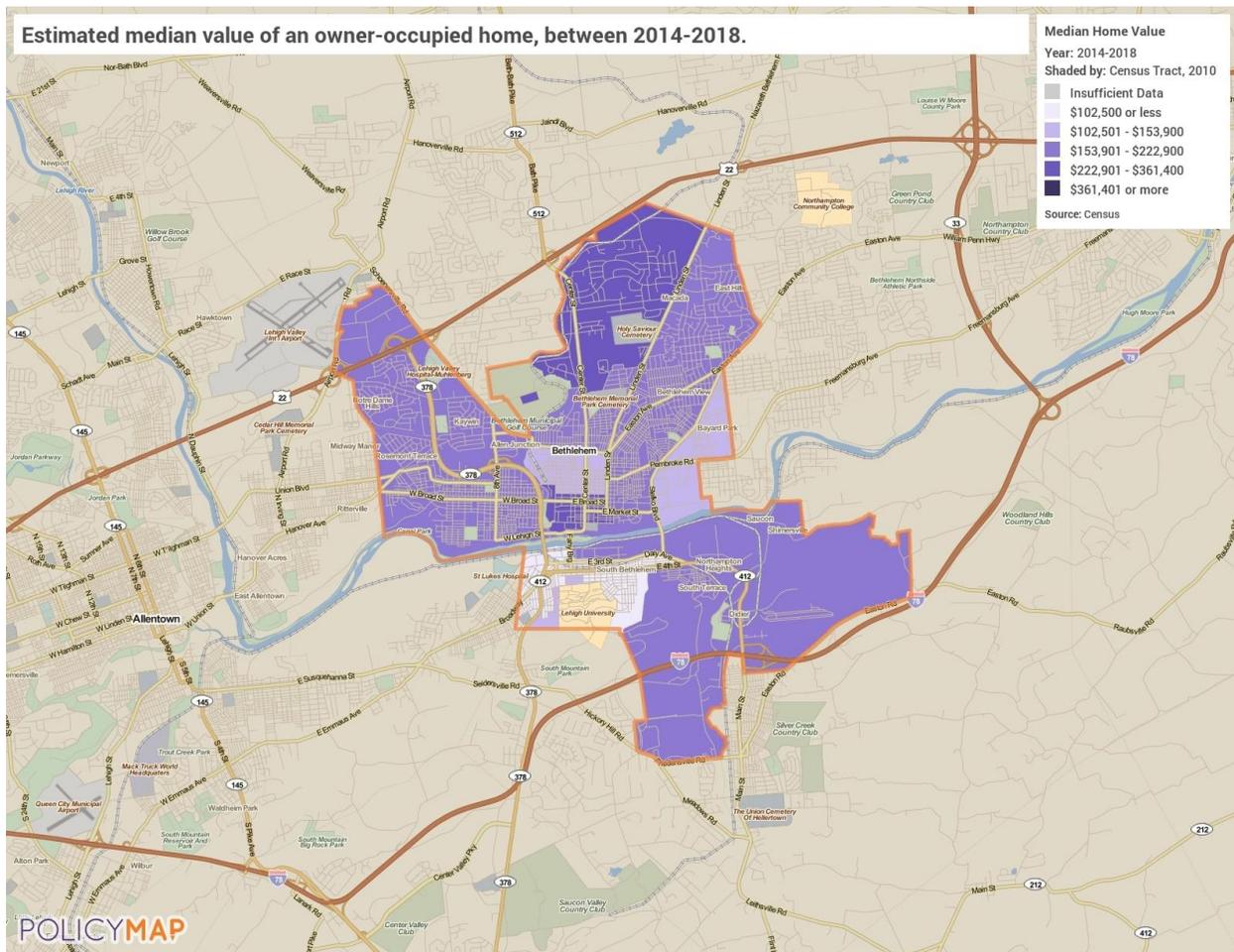
The nature of the population in Bethlehem is quite transient. Approximately 45.4% of the households moved into their current home in 2010 or later according to the 2013-2017 ACS. Additionally, 72.5% of households moved in after 2000. The number of households that have been lifelong residents of Bethlehem is significantly smaller with only 10.8% of the population moving in prior to 1980.

The number of households living at or below poverty level is significant in the City of Bethlehem. The 2013-2017 American Community Survey reports that 11.4% of families are living at or below poverty level. The data also reports that approximately 24.4% of households earn less than \$24,999 while the

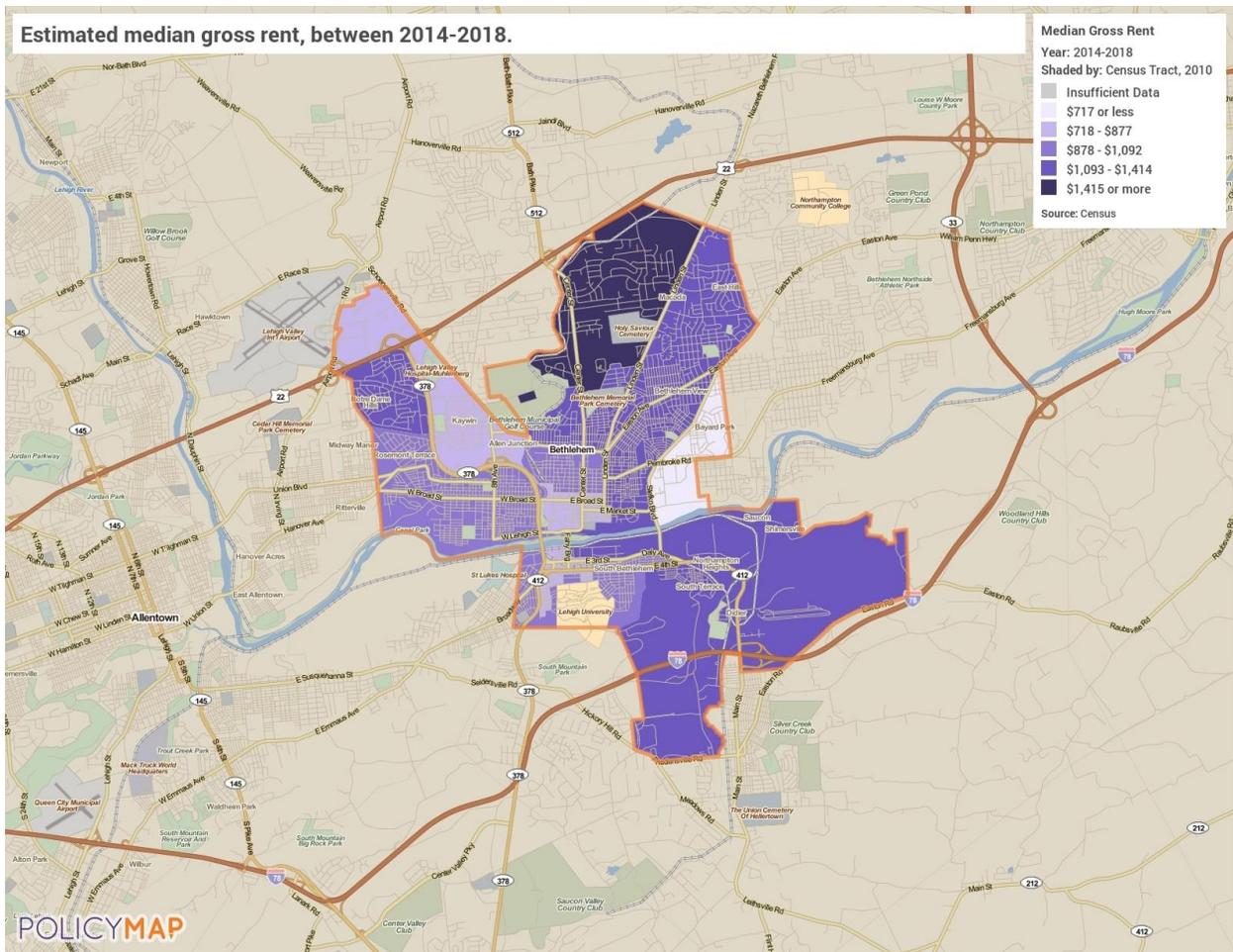
next 24.1% of households earn between \$25,000 and \$49,999 followed by 18.7% earning between \$50,000 and \$74,999. Approximately 25.1% of the population earn between \$75,000 and \$149,999, and 7.6% of the households earn greater than \$150,000 according to the 2013-2017 ACS.

According to the 2013-2017 ACS, approximately 18.3% of owner-occupied housing units pay greater than 35% of households income on monthly home ownership costs also known as SMOCAPI “Selected Monthly Owner Costs as a percentage of Household Income”. Renters are suffering a greater burden with nearly 41.3% of renter households paying more than 35% of household income on Gross Rent or GRAPI, “Gross Rent As a Percentage of Household Income”.

The following topics are covered in the Market Analysis section: Public and Assisted Housing, Housing to Address Homelessness, Special Needs Housing and Housing for the Elderly, Supportive Housing, Housing for the Mentally Ill, Disabled, and Persons with Substance Abuse, housing for Persons with HIV/AIDS and Victims or Domestic Violence.



Median Home Value



Median Contract Rent

MA-10 Number of Housing Units – 91.210(a)&(b)(2)

Introduction

The housing stock in the City of Bethlehem is significantly older compared to its suburban counterparts, and the housing stock is made up of a greater number of attached units compared to single family detached units as well as smaller dwellings with fewer rooms and bedrooms. A significant amount of resources are necessary to ensure that enough units are available for larger households and that units are maintained to ensure quality and safe units are available.

The renter occupied units tend to be smaller compared to the owner-occupied units, offering fewer bedrooms and less space to tenants. For example, the number of renter occupied 1 bedroom units made up 31% of the inventory, while the owner occupied counterpart only comprised 1% of the inventory. The trend continues for two and three or more bedroom units. Nearly 83% of the owner occupied units have three or more bedrooms, while only 32% of the renter occupied units have three or more bedrooms. Addressing the need for larger rental units is an ongoing issue and concern for the City of Bethlehem.

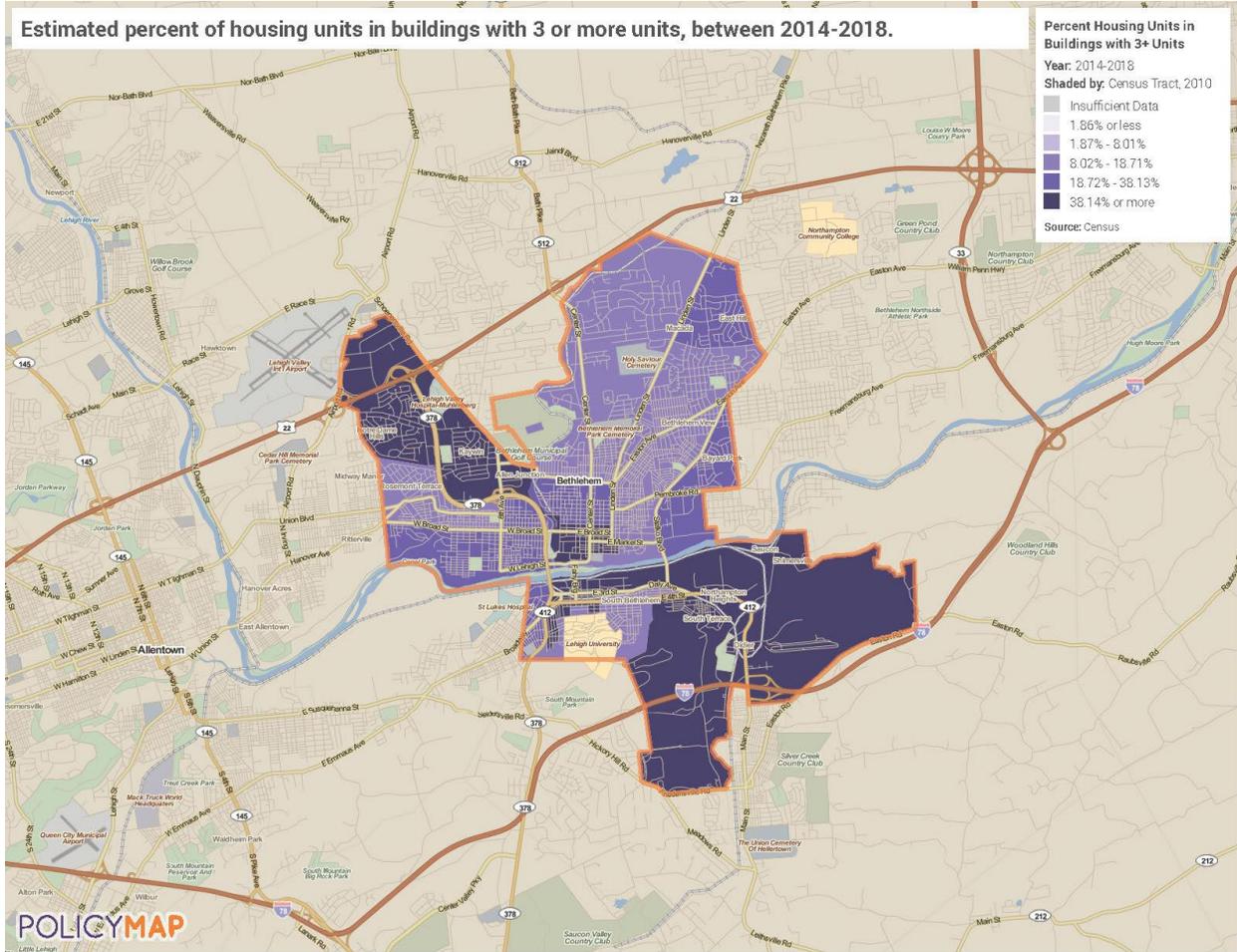
All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	11,845	38%
1-unit, attached structure	8,940	29%
2-4 units	3,970	13%
5-19 units	3,980	13%
20 or more units	2,485	8%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc	70	0%
Total	31,290	100%

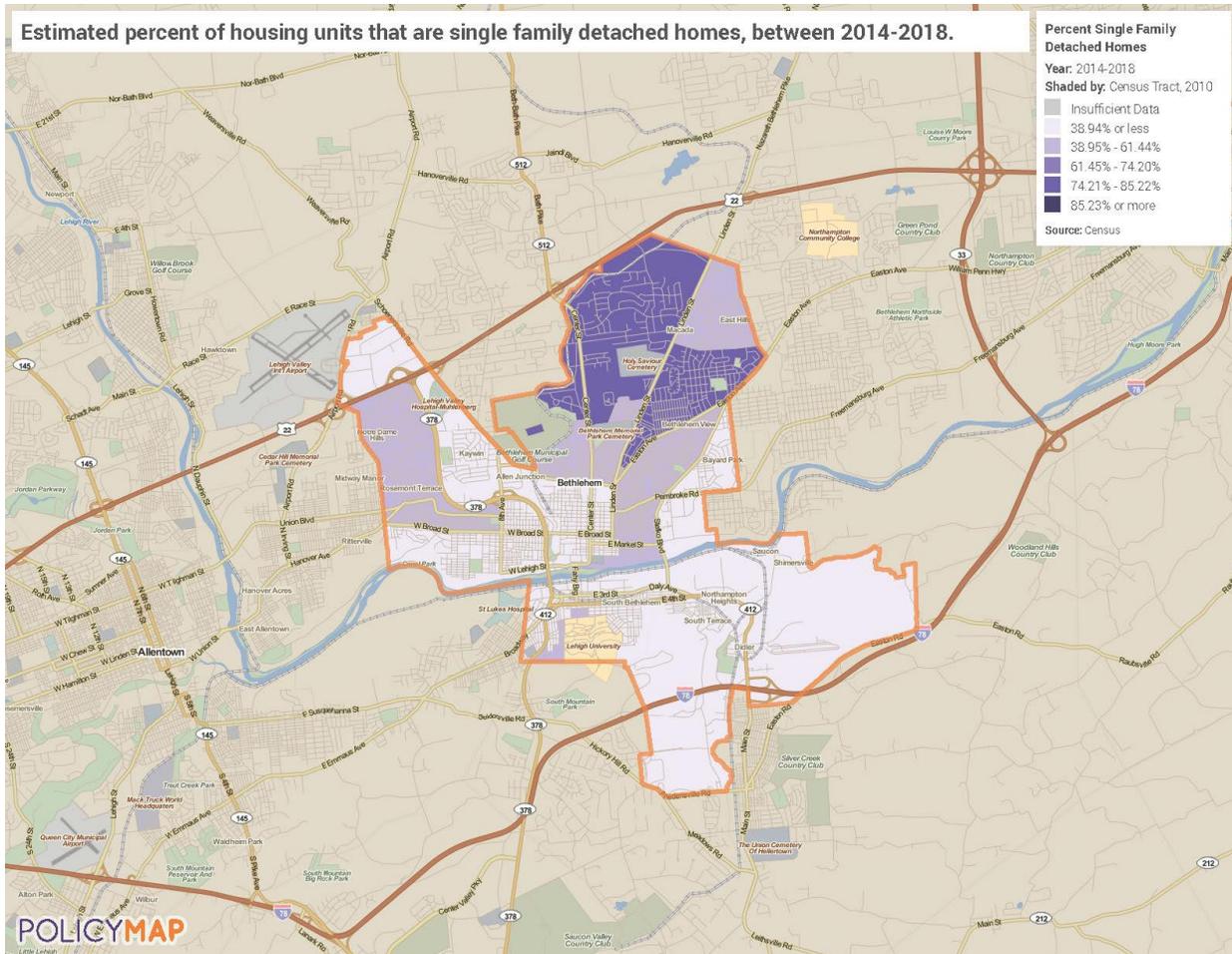
Table 27 – Residential Properties by Unit Number

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Estimated percent of housing units in buildings with 3 or more units, between 2014-2018.



Percentage of Housing Units in Buildings With 3 or more Units



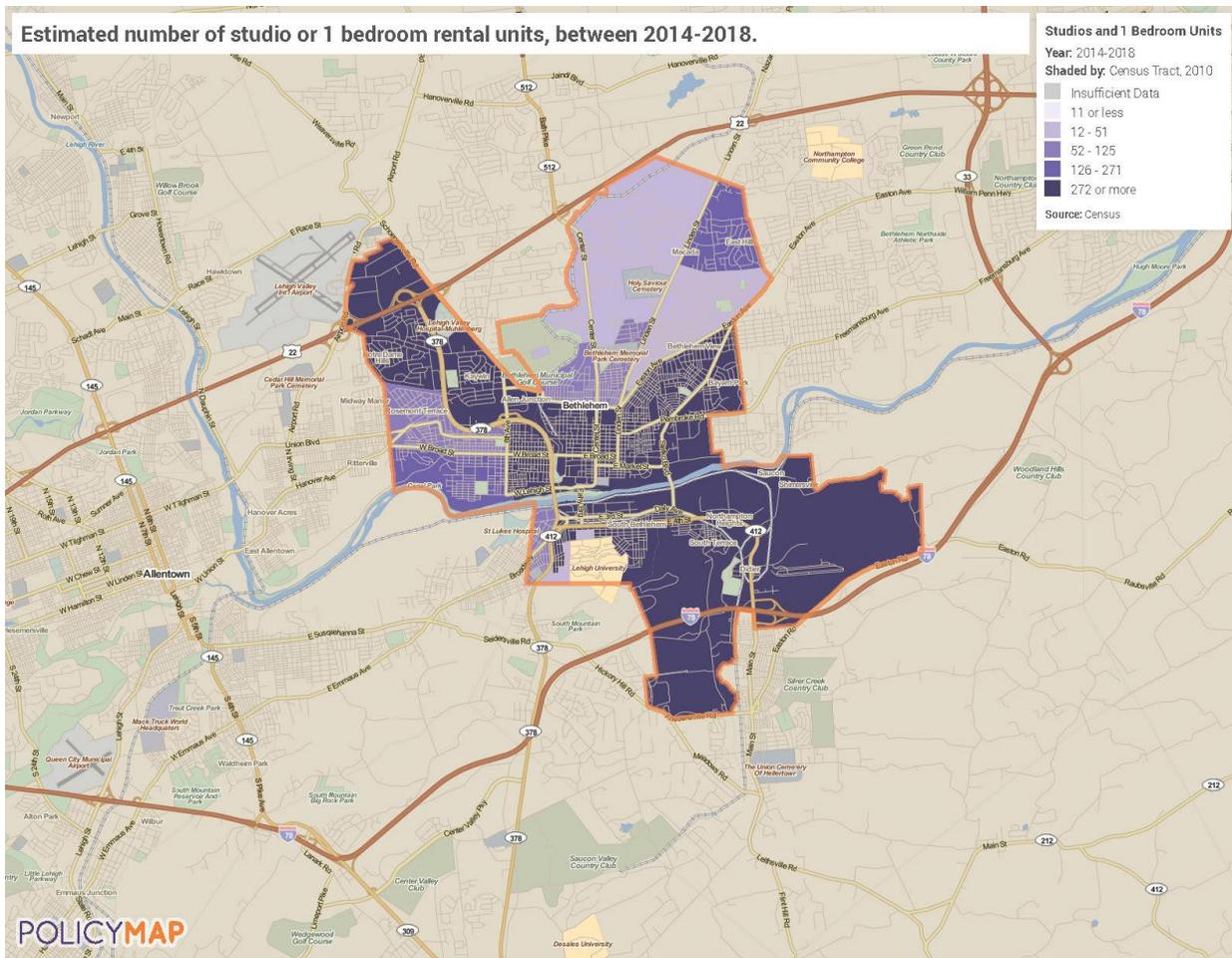
Percentage of Single Family Detached Units

Unit Size by Tenure

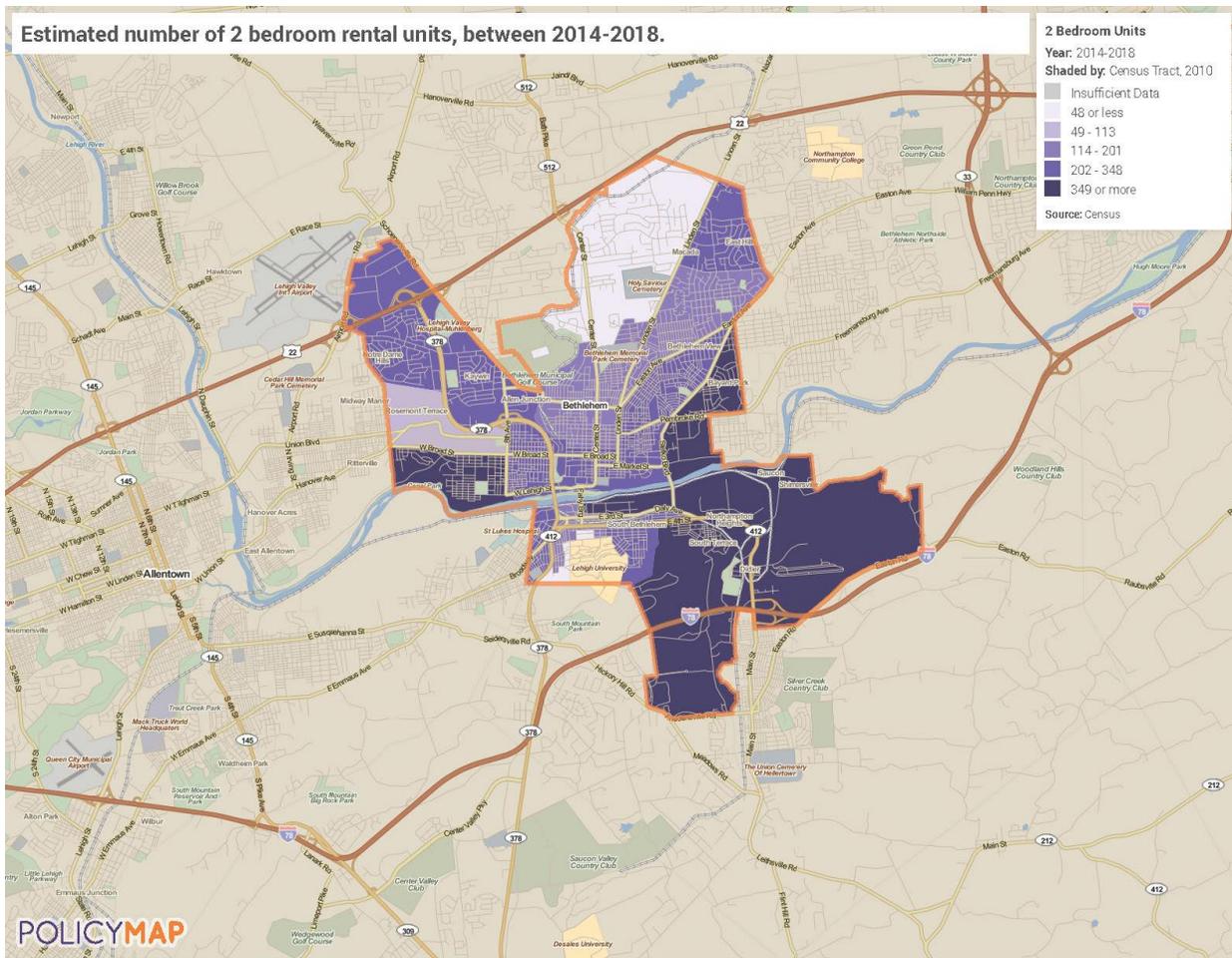
	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	10	0%	620	4%
1 bedroom	165	1%	4,480	31%
2 bedrooms	2,395	16%	4,700	33%
3 or more bedrooms	12,250	83%	4,530	32%
Total	14,820	100%	14,330	100%

Table 28 – Unit Size by Tenure

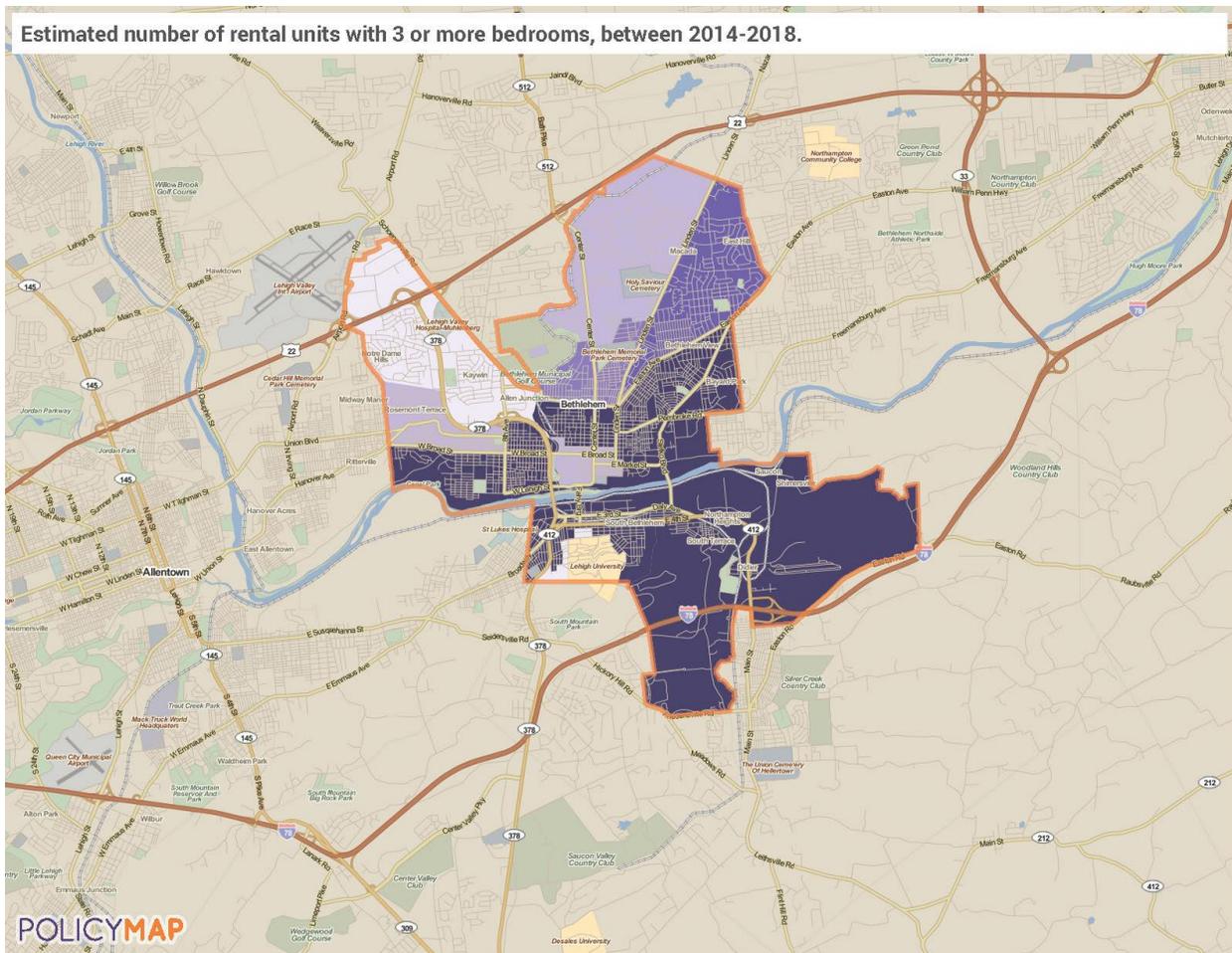
Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS



Number of Studio and 1 BR Units



Number of 2 BR Units



Number of 3+ BR Units

Describe the number and targeting (income level/type of family served) of units assisted with federal, state, and local programs.

The Bethlehem Housing Authority (BHA) owns and manages a total of 1,454 public housing units at 11 sites. Additionally, the Authority administers 497 Section 8 vouchers within the City. Per the 5 year PHA Plan the turnover year rate for Public Housing is 144 and for Section 8 is 30. The vast majority of these households are considered extremely low income, that is, having an income below 30% of the area median income. These facts demonstrate a considerable demand for low to moderate income housing in the community.

Housing units are aimed at individuals earning primarily 30% or less than MFI in the City. These individuals are concentrated primarily in the Southside Neighborhoods of the City and in certain areas of the north and west side. Low income families are predominately White and Hispanic.

Provide an assessment of units expected to be lost from the affordable housing inventory for any reason, such as expiration of Section 8 contracts.

Currently there are not any units set to expire this year under the Section 8 plan.

Does the availability of housing units meet the needs of the population?

Currently half of the households in the City of Bethlehem earn less than 50% of the City’s median household income of \$51,880 according to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey, however approximately 3,765 renter occupied units and 1,015 owner occupied units are affordable to households earning approximately 50% of the HUD Area Median Family Income highlighting a shortage in the number of affordable units in the City of Bethlehem. In addition, currently there is a 7.4% vacancy rate in the City of Bethlehem, highlighting a tight correlation of supply and demand in the housing market.

Describe the need for specific types of housing:

Given population trends in the City and regionally, there are key cohorts of the population that should be targeted for new housing development. They include senior citizens, low/moderate income workers, and students/young adults. As noted in Section MA-05, the percentage of senior and elderly residents in Bethlehem is growing, as it is nationally. The demand for senior housing of various types, including assisted living facilities and in-house accommodations is likely to be an in-demand component of the future housing market. With the influx of workers, in the casino, hospitality and entertainment industries, there is a growing need for workforce housing, which would most likely be accommodated as high density rental housing. This is the type of housing envisioned by projects defined in the City’s Eastern Gateway Plan and neighborhood plans. The same applies for students and young adults whose housing needs can be addressed in partnership with the major educational institutions present in the City – Moravian College, the Northampton Community College, and Lehigh University.

Discussion

MA-15 Housing Market Analysis: Cost of Housing - 91.210(a)

Introduction

The renters have a greater cost of housing burden compared to owners. For example, approximately 14,468 households, or 50% of households earn less than median household income according to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey. However, only 3,765 rental units and 1,015 owner-occupied units are affordable to households earning approximately 50% of the HUD Area Median Family Income. As stated in MA-05, The number of households living at or below poverty level is significant in the City of Bethlehem. The 2013-2017 American Community Survey reports that 11.4% of families are living at or below poverty level. The data also reports that approximately 24.4% of households earn less than \$24,999 while the next 24.1% of households earn between \$25,000 and \$49,999 followed by 18.7% earning between \$50,000 and \$74,999. Approximately 25.1% of the population earn between \$75,000 and \$149,999, and 7.6% of the households earn greater than \$150,000 according to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey.

According to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey, approximately 18.3% of owner-occupied housing units pay greater than 35% of households income on monthly home ownership costs also known as SMOCAPI “Selected Monthly Owner Costs as a percentage of Household Income”. Renters are suffering a greater burden with nearly 41.3% of renter households paying more than 35% of household income on Gross Rent or GRAPI, “Gross Rent As a Percentage of Household Income”.

Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2015	% Change
Median Home Value	169,000	170,500	1%
Median Contract Rent	686	810	18%

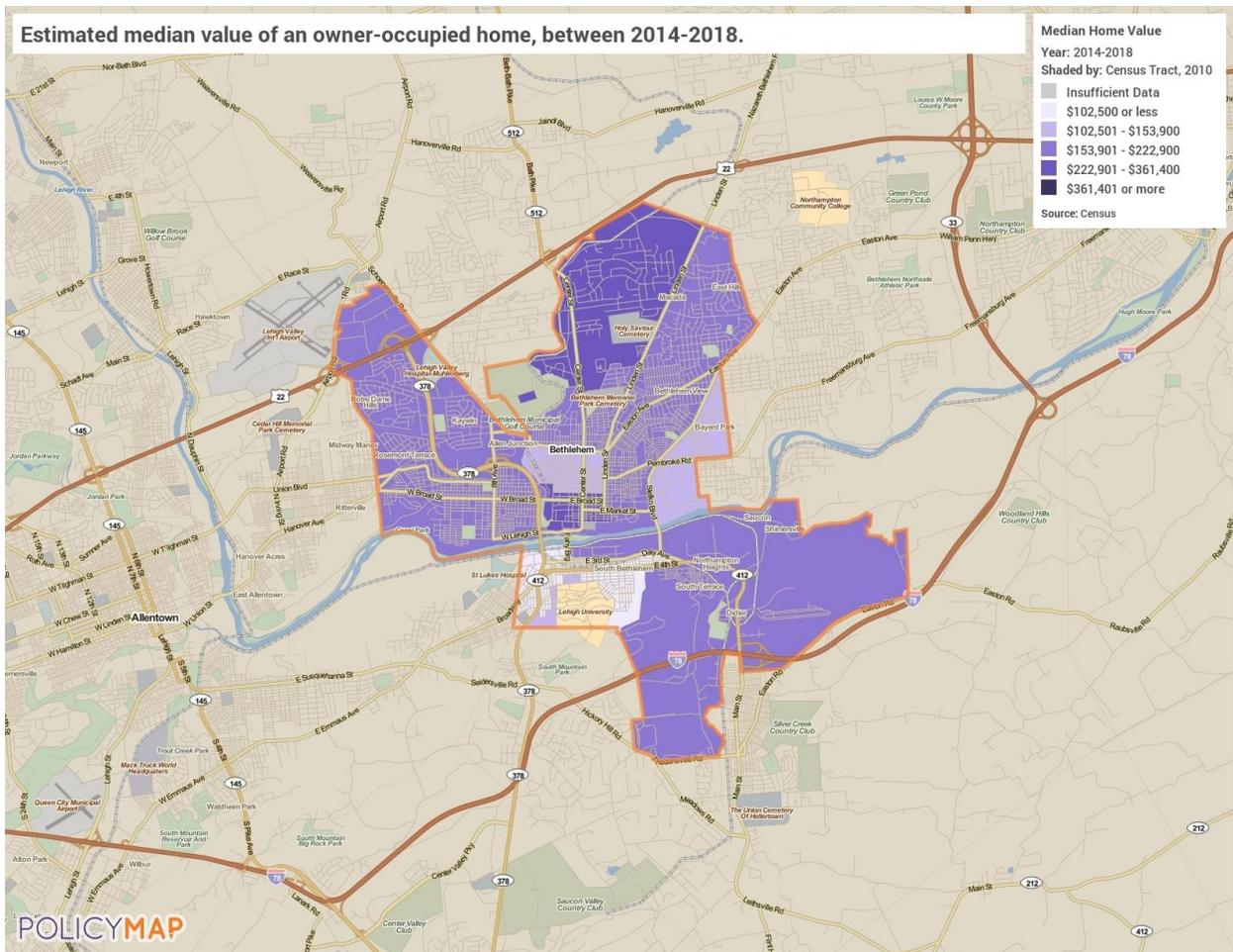
Table 29 – Cost of Housing

Data Source: 2005-2009 ACS (Base Year), 2011-2015 ACS (Most Recent Year)

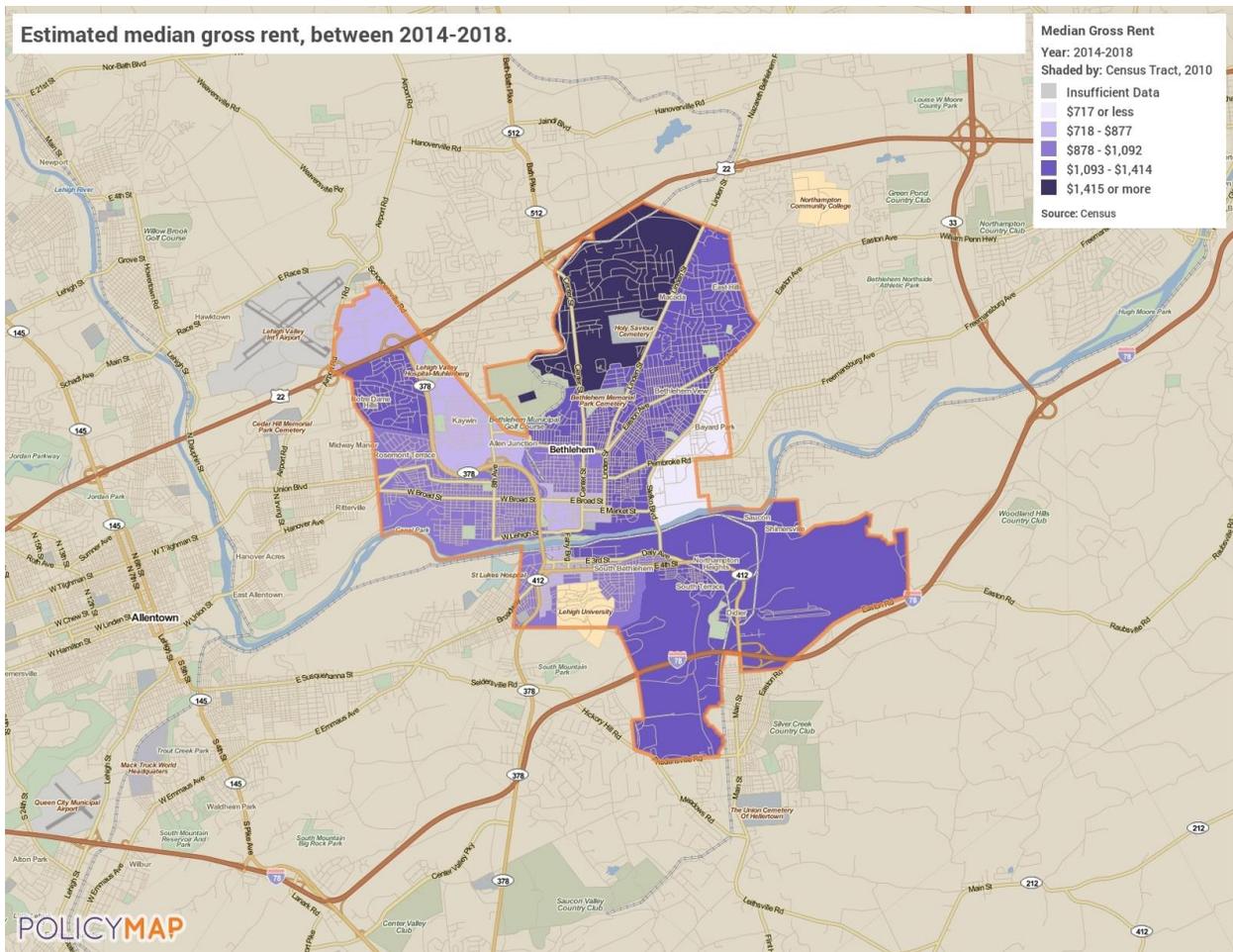
Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than \$500	3,220	22.5%
\$500-999	7,375	51.5%
\$1,000-1,499	3,075	21.5%
\$1,500-1,999	525	3.7%
\$2,000 or more	143	1.0%
Total	14,338	100.1%

Table 30 - Rent Paid

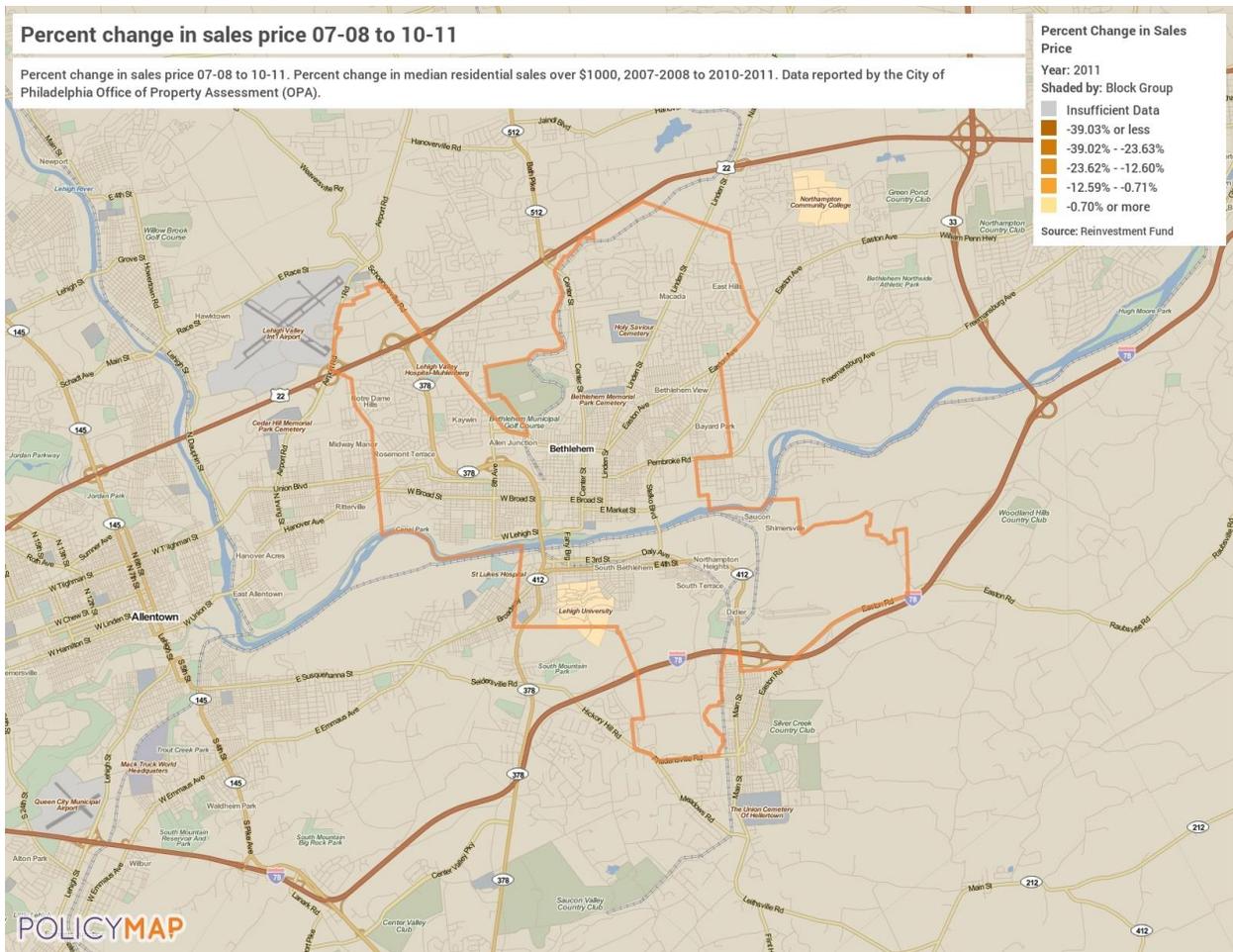
Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS



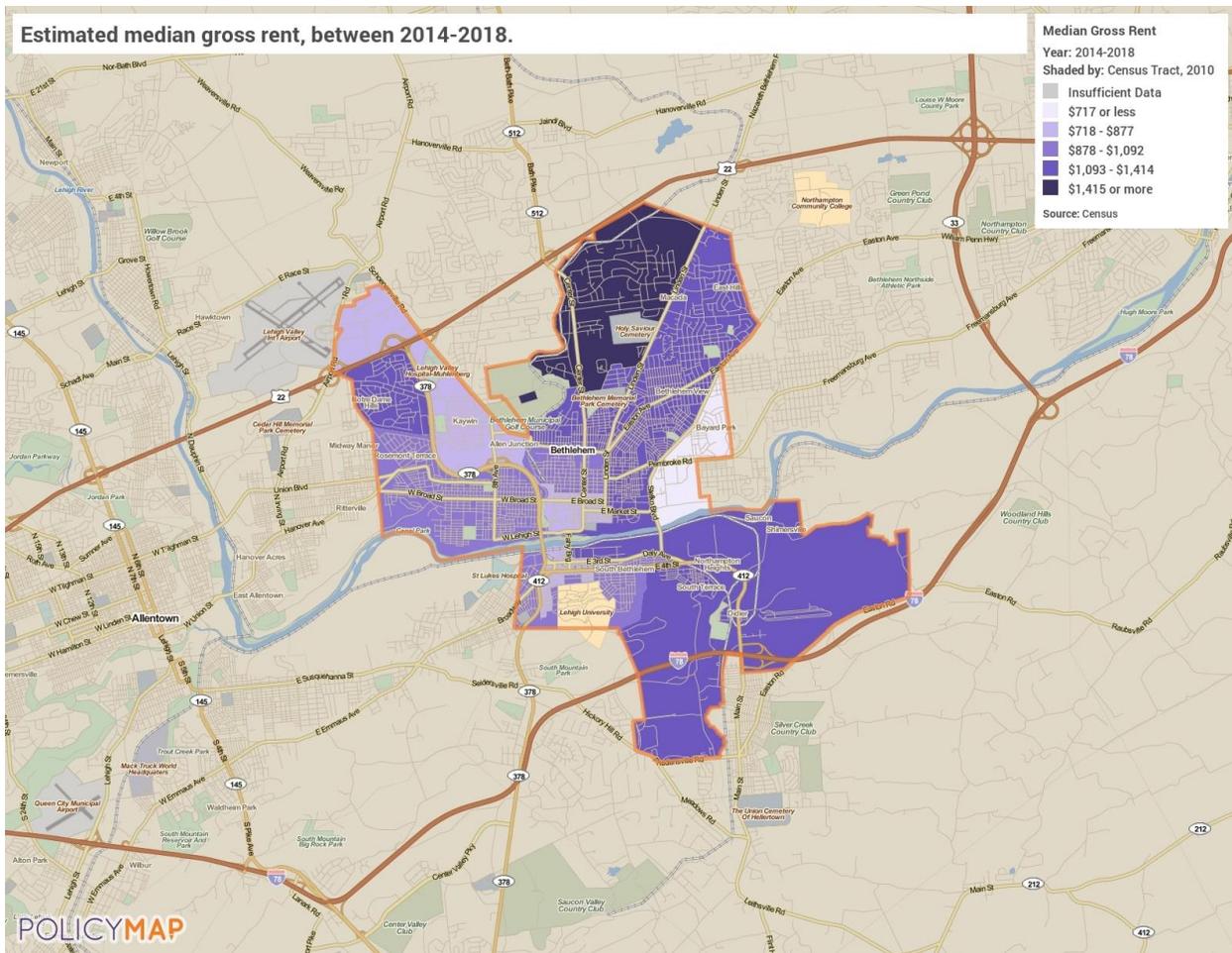
Median Home Value



Median Contract Rent



Change in Home Value



Change in Rent

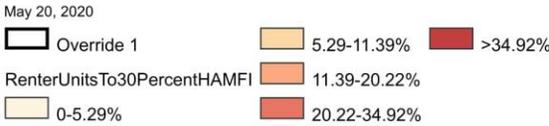
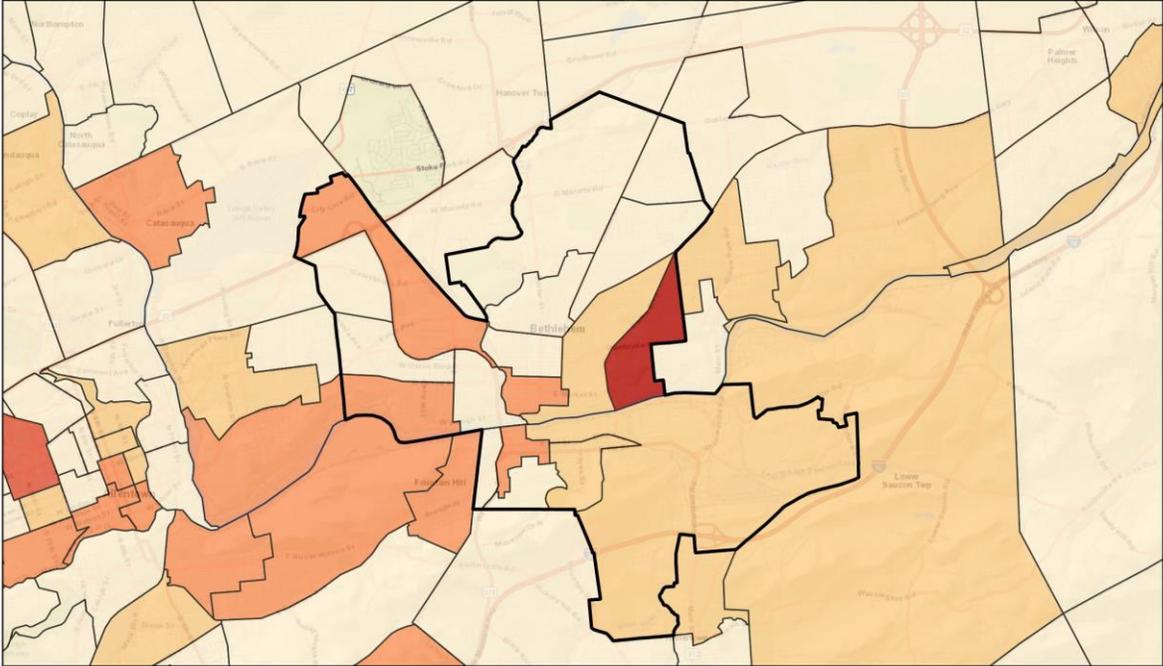
Housing Affordability

% Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	1,615	No Data
50% HAMFI	3,765	1,015
80% HAMFI	9,120	3,705
100% HAMFI	No Data	5,890
Total	14,500	10,610

Table 31 – Housing Affordability

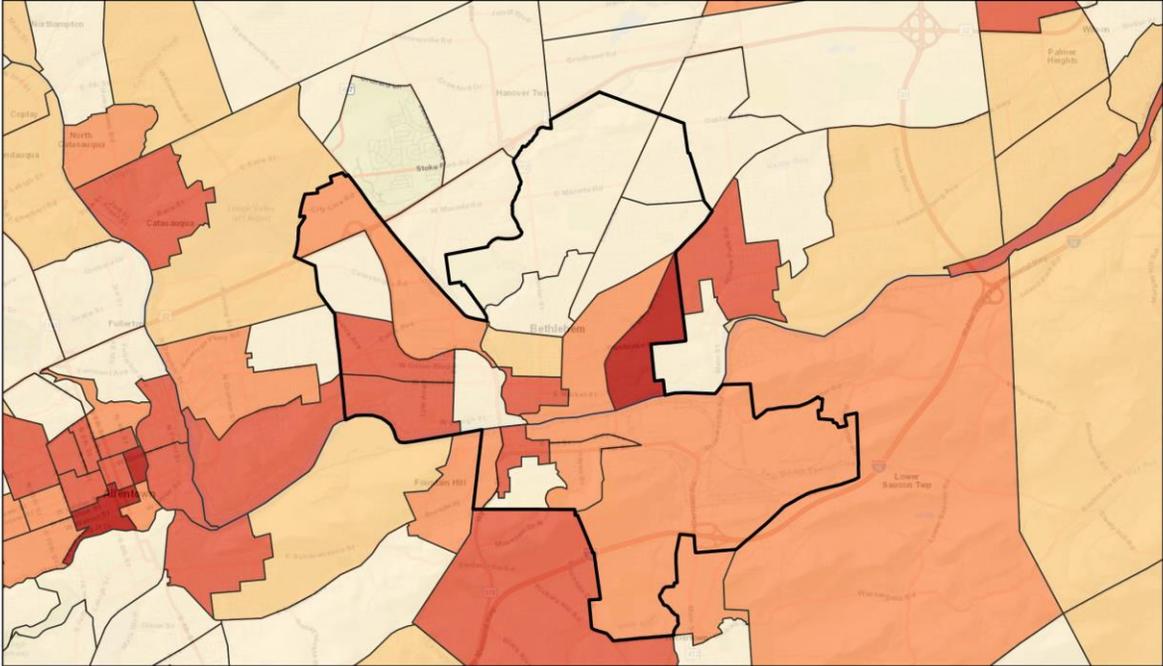
Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Bethlehem City - % Renter Units Affordable to 30% HAMFI



% Rental Units Affordable to 30% HAMFI

Bethlehem City - % Renter Units Affordable to 50% HAMFI



May 20, 2020

Override 1

RenterUnitsTo50PercentHAMFI	0-9.21%	9.21-18.93%	18.93-31.25%	31.25-47.95% >47.95%

1:105,748

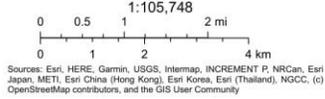
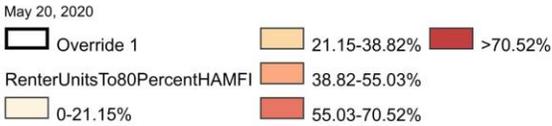
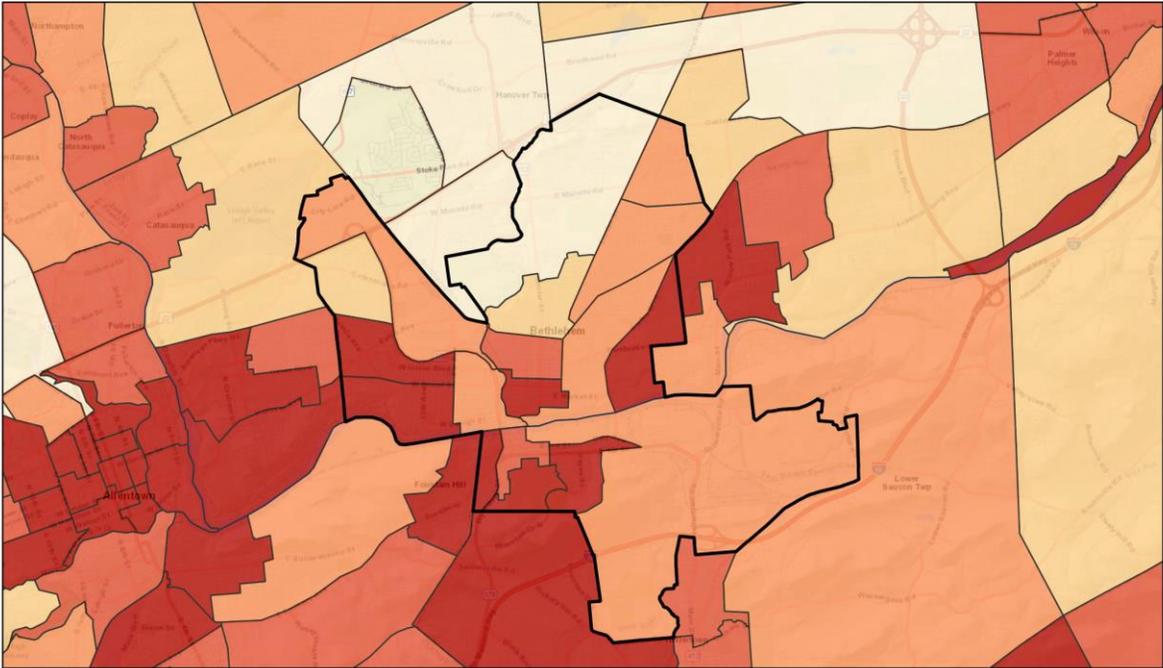
0 0.5 1 2 mi

0 1 2 4 km

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

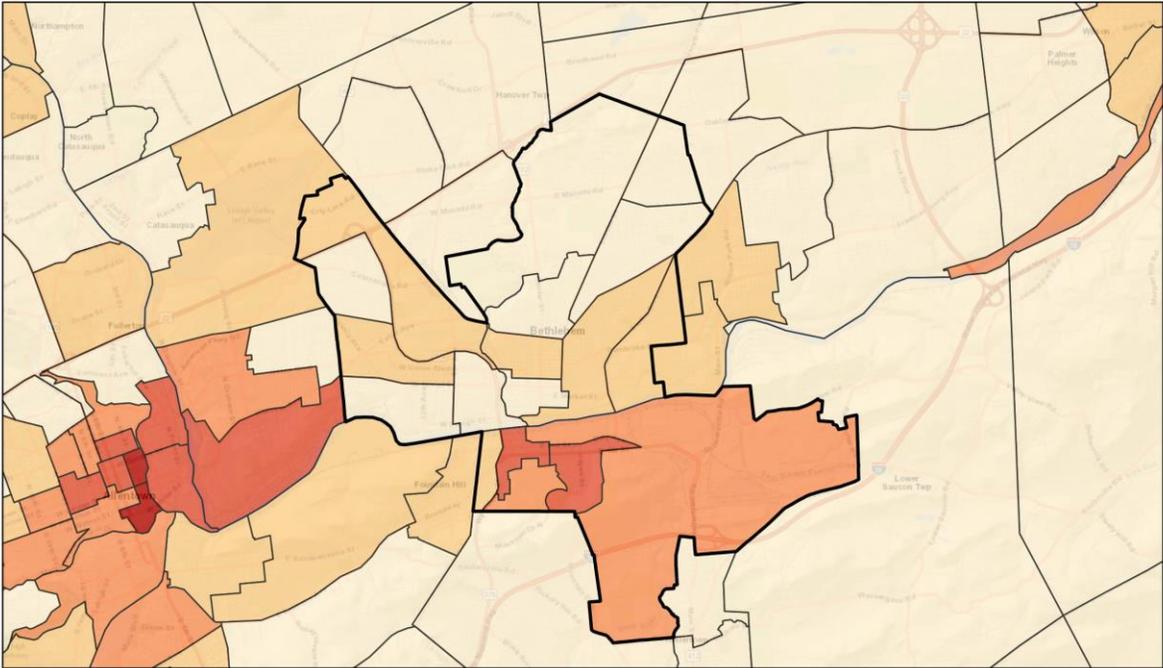
% Rental Units Affordable to 50% HAMFI

Bethlehem City - % Renter Units Affordable to 80% HAMFI



% Rental Units Affordable to 80% HAMFI

Bethlehem City - % Owner Units Affordable to 50% HAMFI



May 20, 2020

Override 1

6.15-14.25%
 >45.71%

14.25-25.64%

0-6.15%
 25.64-45.71%

1:105,748

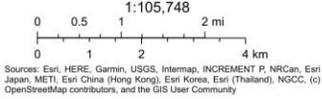
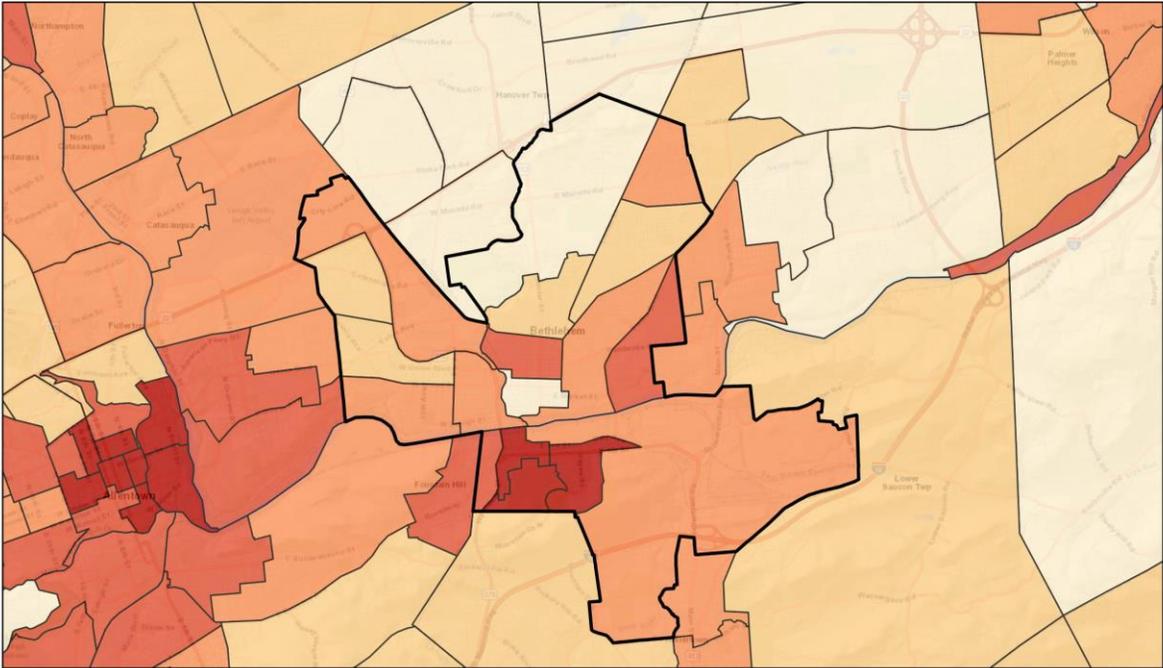
0 0.5 1 2 mi

0 1 2 4 km

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

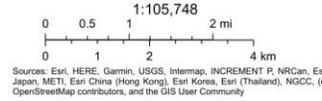
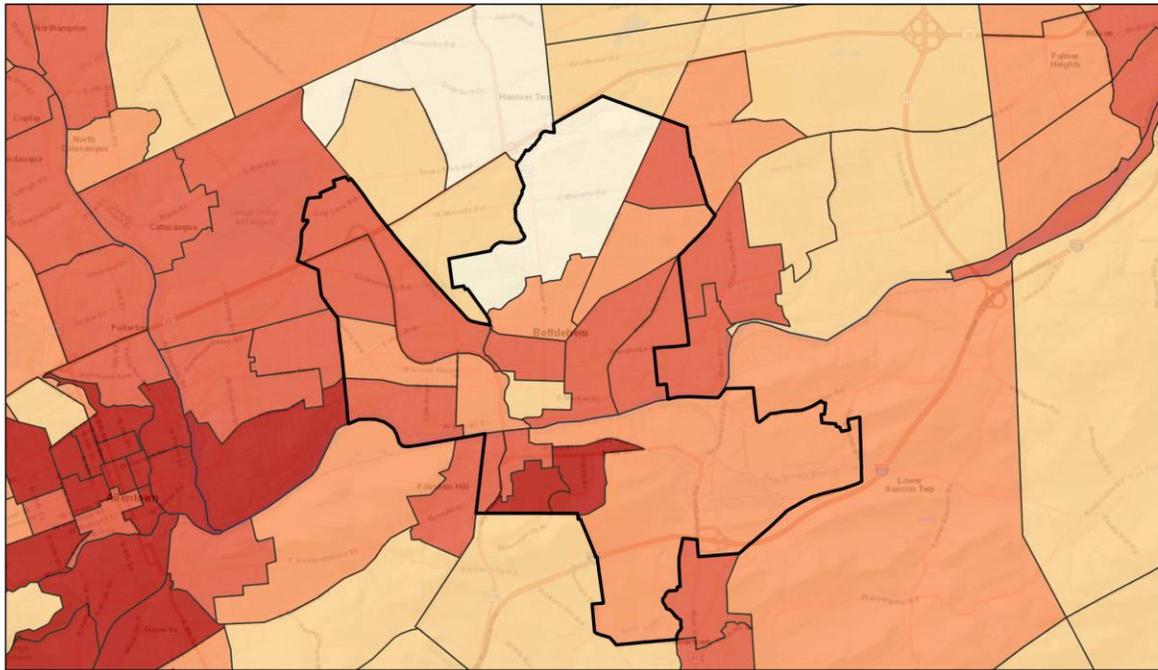
% Owner Units Affordable to 50% HAMFI

Bethlehem City - % Owner Units Affordable to 80% HAMFI



% Owner Units Affordable to 80% HAMFI

Bethlehem City - % Owner Units Affordable to 100% HAMFI



% Owner Units Affordable to 100% HAMFI

Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent (\$)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent	668	824	1,048	1,352	1,427
High HOME Rent	668	824	1,048	1,227	1,350
Low HOME Rent	653	700	840	970	1,082

Table 32 – Monthly Rent

Data Source: HUD FMR and HOME Rents

Is there sufficient housing for households at all income levels?

There is not sufficient housing for households at all income levels. According to HUD, a rental unit is considered affordable if gross rent, including utilities, is no more than 30% of the household income. There are approximately 1,615 rental units available for households that can afford approximately 30% of HAMFI. In order to pay the median contract rent in Bethlehem, a household would need to earn approximately \$32,400 per year and pay 30% of household income on rent.

With a median value in 2015 of 170,500, it is estimated with spending 30% of income on principal interest, taxes, etc. that one must make at least 38,500/ year to affordable a home in Bethlehem

In addition, currently there is a waiting list of 2,410 people in the City of Bethlehem indicating strong demand for affordable units.

How is affordability of housing likely to change considering changes to home values and/or rents?

Median Home Values only went up 1% from 2009 to 2015, while median contract rents increased by 18%. Having a large student population leads rents to increase more rapidly as their more demand for rentals in Bethlehem than for owner-occupied homes. Rents are expected to rise as newer units get added to the supply. While currently it costs more to own in Bethlehem if trends continue it may be cheaper to own than rent, as rents increase at rates higher than property values.

How do HOME rents / Fair Market Rent compare to Area Median Rent? How might this impact your strategy to produce or preserve affordable housing?

HOME/Fair Market Rent for a 1 bedroom is \$824/month, while area median rent is \$810/month. This may suggest that housing should be preserved as over half of all rents are less than the Fair Market Rent

Discussion

MA-20 Housing Market Analysis: Condition of Housing – 91.210(a)

Introduction

Approximately 82.5% of the housing in the City of Bethlehem was constructed prior to 1979, as such, a significant number of units are in need of repair and present a lead-based paint threat. As such, the following data suggests that the owner-occupied units are in better shape and present less lead-based paint hazards compared to the renter occupied units in percentage terms. However, in real numbers the threat of lead based paint and housing with at least one condition is equally as significant among both types of housing in the City of Bethlehem.

Definitions

Units are in substandard condition when, while they may be structurally sound, they do not provide safe and adequate shelter, and in their present condition endanger the health, safety, or well-being of the occupants. Such housing has one or more defects, or a combination of potential defects in sufficient number or extent to require considerable repair or rebuilding, or is of inadequate original construction.

To be defined as substandard condition but suitable for rehabilitation, the estimated cost of the rehabilitation should normally not be more than 25 percent of the value of the property (including land) after rehabilitation. The rehabilitation should be of such scope that, when completed, all the components in the house are operable and should not be anticipated to require any work or major expense over and above normal maintenance for the first one-fourth to one-third of the mortgage term.

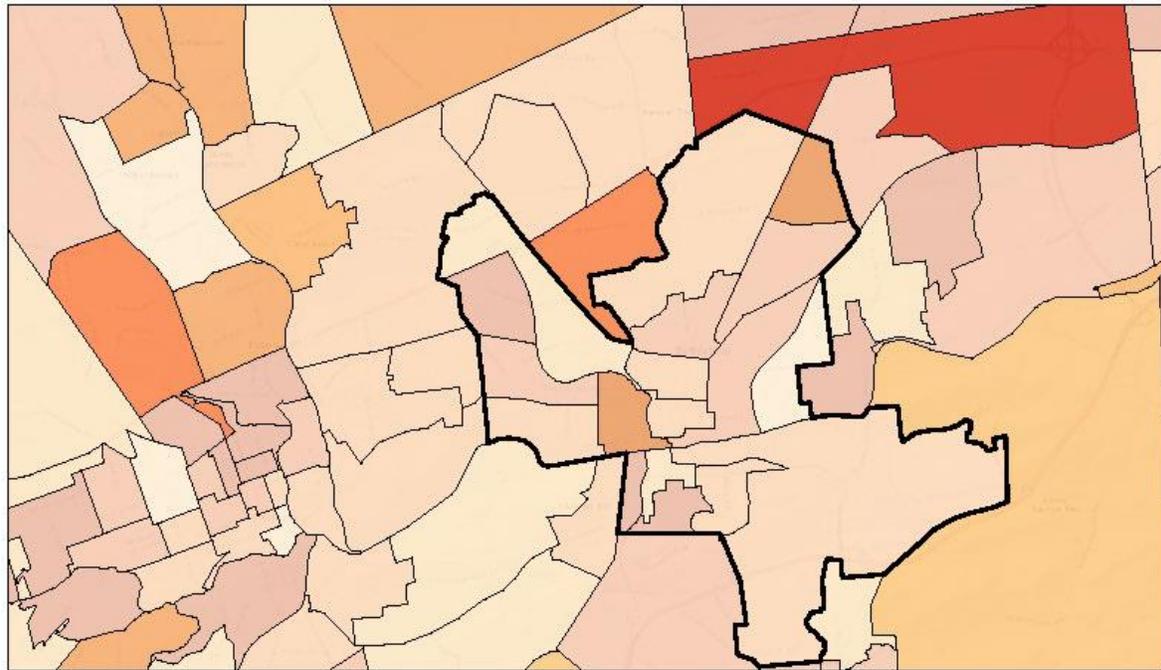
Condition of Units

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	3,885	26%	7,085	49%
With two selected Conditions	20	0%	260	2%
With three selected Conditions	0	0%	55	0%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	10,915	74%	6,920	48%
Total	14,820	100%	14,320	99%

Table 33 - Condition of Units

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Bethlehem City - Pct of Extremely-Low Income Households with Any of the 4 Severe Housing Problems



April 23, 2020

Override 1

MI HHWithSubstandardHousing

0-4.05%

4.05-10%

10-22.90%

22.90-44.31%

0-39.29%

39.29-57.46%

57.46-72.31%

72.31-86.84%

>86.84%

ELIHHWithHousingProblems

1:104,578

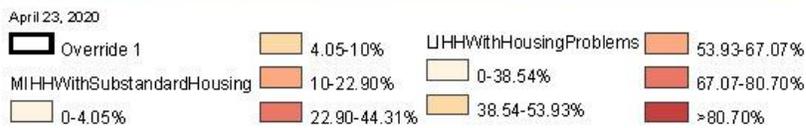
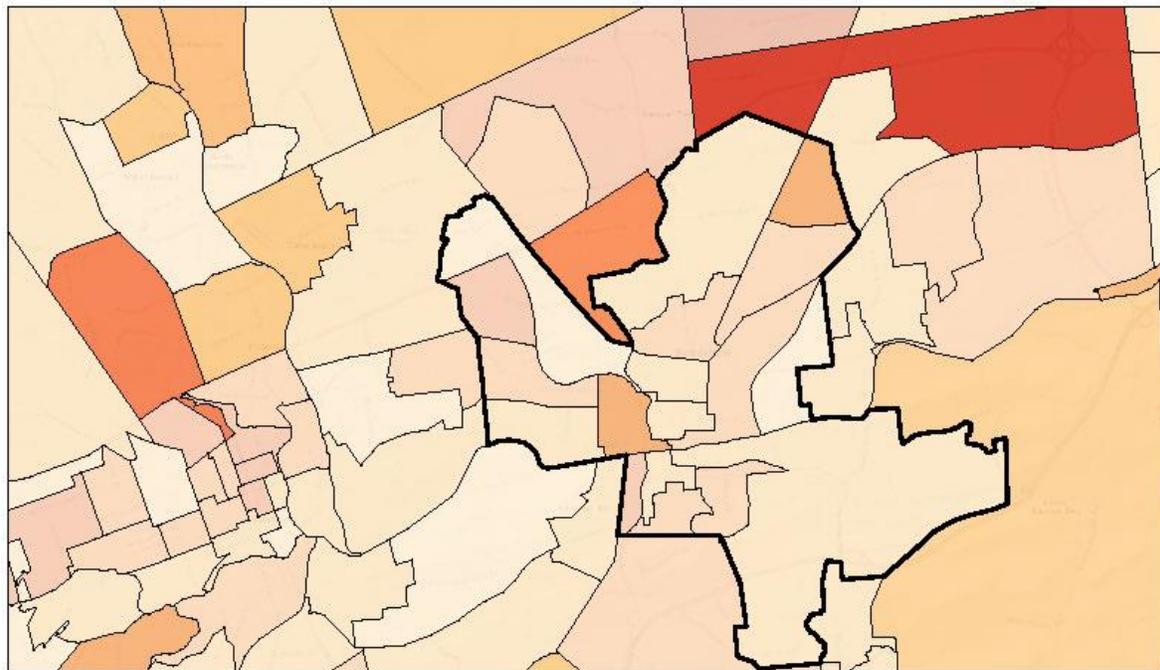
0 0.5 1 2 mi

0 1 2 4 km

Sources: Cui, HUSE, Garmy, USGS, Intermap, INCORPORATED, P, HSC, Cui, Japan, MCI, East China (Hong Kong), East House, East (Frederick), HCC, ID, OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

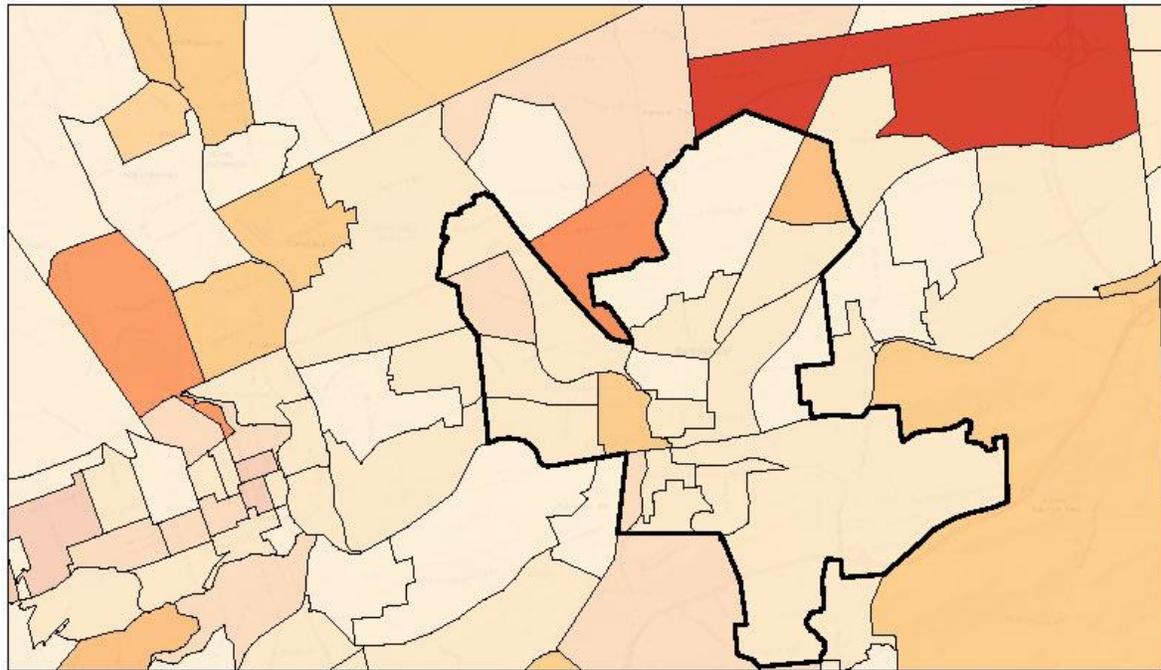
% of Extremely-Low Income Households with Any of the 4 Severe Housing Problems

Bethlehem City - Pct of Low Income Households with Any of the 4 Severe Housing Problems



% of Low Income Households with Any of the 4 Severe Housing Problems

Bethlehem City - Pct of Moderate Income Households with Any of the 4 Severe Housing Problems



% of Moderate Income Households with Any of the 4 Severe Housing Problems

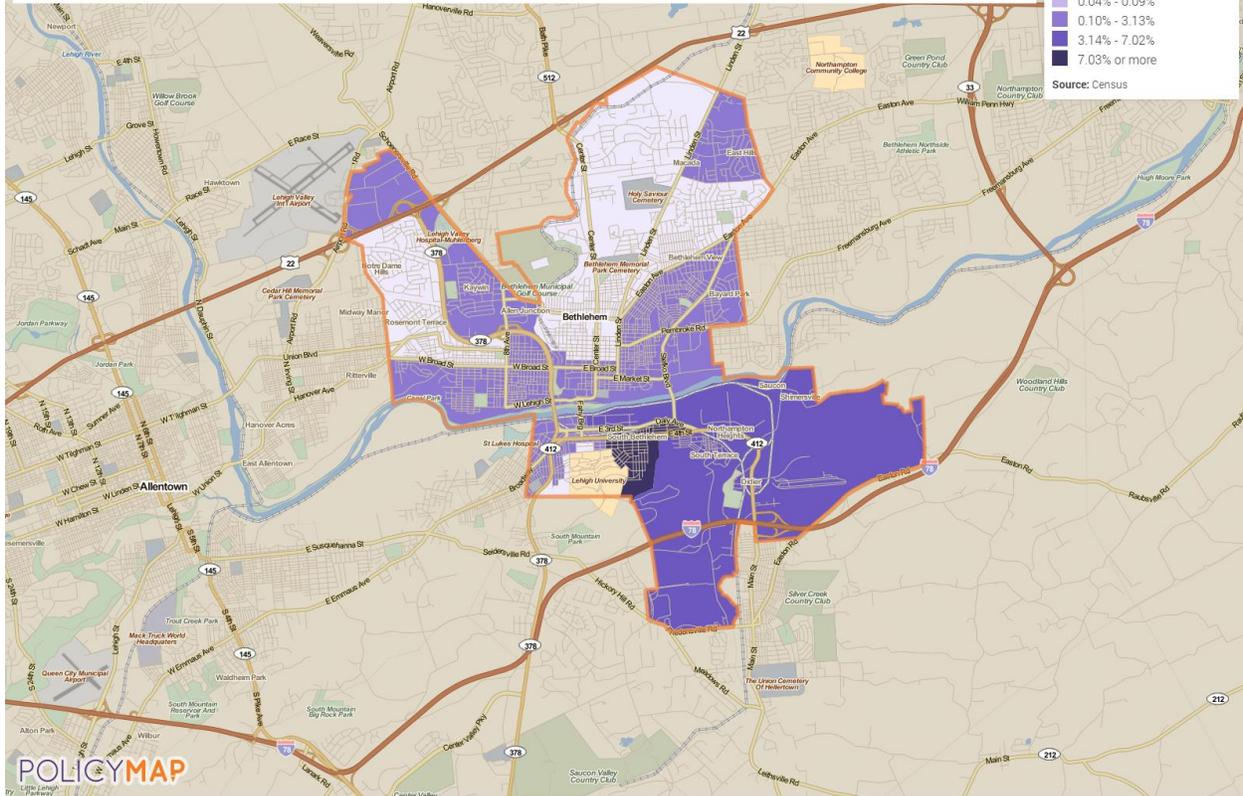
Estimated percent of renter-occupied housing units with two or more selected physical or financial problems, between 2014-2018.

Estimated percent of renter-occupied housing units with two or more selected physical or financial conditions, between 2014-2018. A "selected condition" includes lacking complete plumbing facilities, lacking complete kitchen facilities, having 1.01 or more occupants per room, having selected monthly owner costs as a percentage of household income greater than 30 percent, and having gross rent as a percentage of household income greater than 30 percent. Percentage calculations are suppressed where the denominator of the calculation is less than 10.

Percent of Renter-Occupied Housing Units with Two or More Selected Conditions
 Year: 2014-2018
 Shaded by: Census Tract, 2010

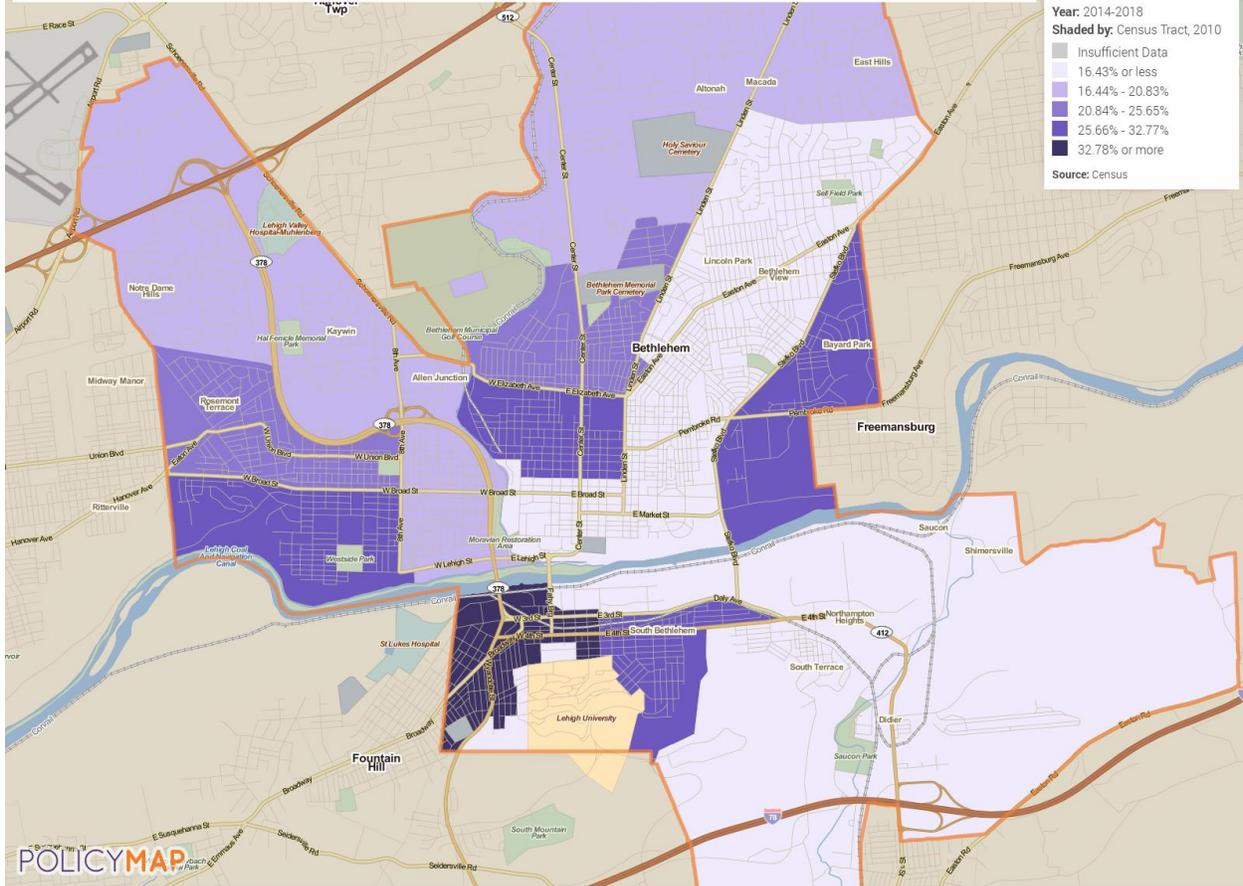
- Insufficient Data
- 0.03% or less
- 0.04% - 0.09%
- 0.10% - 3.13%
- 3.14% - 7.02%
- 7.03% or more

Source: Census



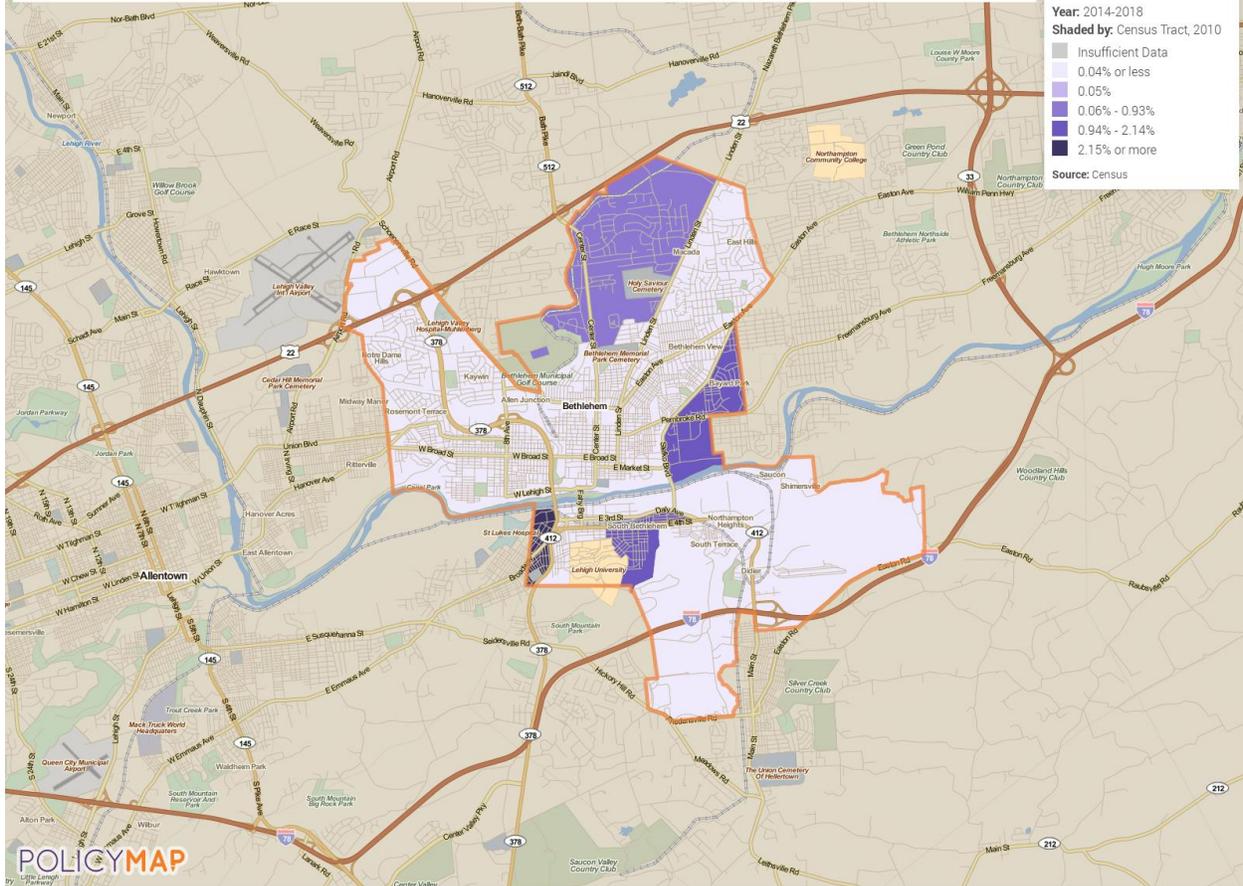
% of Renter Housing Units With Two or More Housing Problems

Estimated percent of owner-occupied housing units with one or more selected physical or financial problems, between 2014-2018.



% of Owner Housing With One or More Problems

Estimated percent of owner-occupied housing units with two or more selected physical or financial problems, between 2014-2018.



% of Owner Units With Two or More Housing Problems

Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	465	3%	1,295	9%
1980-1999	1,455	10%	1,885	13%
1950-1979	6,985	47%	5,700	40%
Before 1950	5,910	40%	5,440	38%
Total	14,815	100%	14,320	100%

Table 34 – Year Unit Built

Data Source: 2011-2015 CHAS

Estimated percent of all housing units built in 1939 or before, as of 2014-2018.

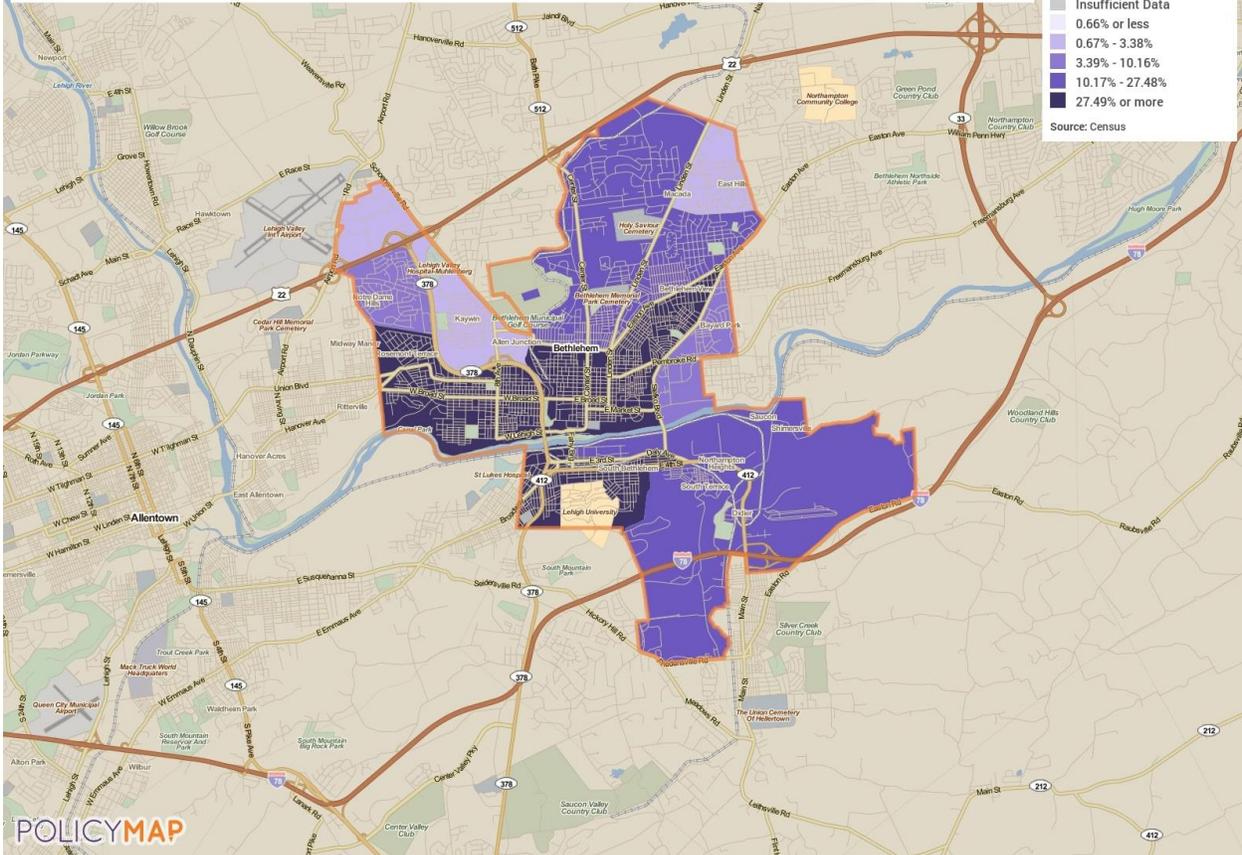
Estimated percent of housing units built in 1939 or before, as of 2014-2018. Percentage calculations were suppressed in cases where the denominator of the calculation was less than 10 of the unit that is being described (e.g., households, people, householders, etc.).

Percent Units Built in 1939 or Before

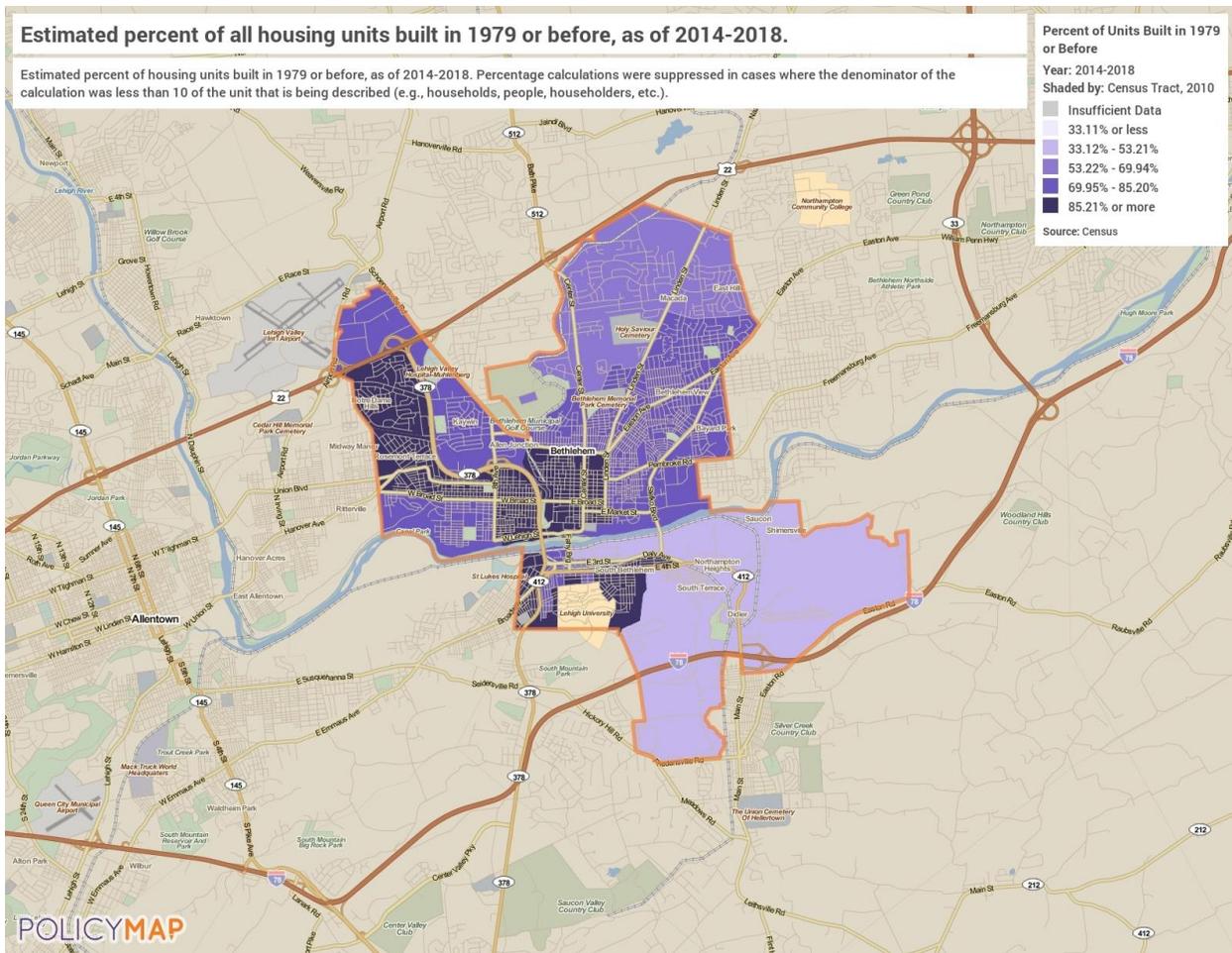
Year: 2014-2018
Shaded by: Census Tract, 2010

- Insufficient Data
- 0.66% or less
- 0.67% - 3.38%
- 3.39% - 10.16%
- 10.17% - 27.48%
- 27.49% or more

Source: Census



Rental Housing Built Before 1939



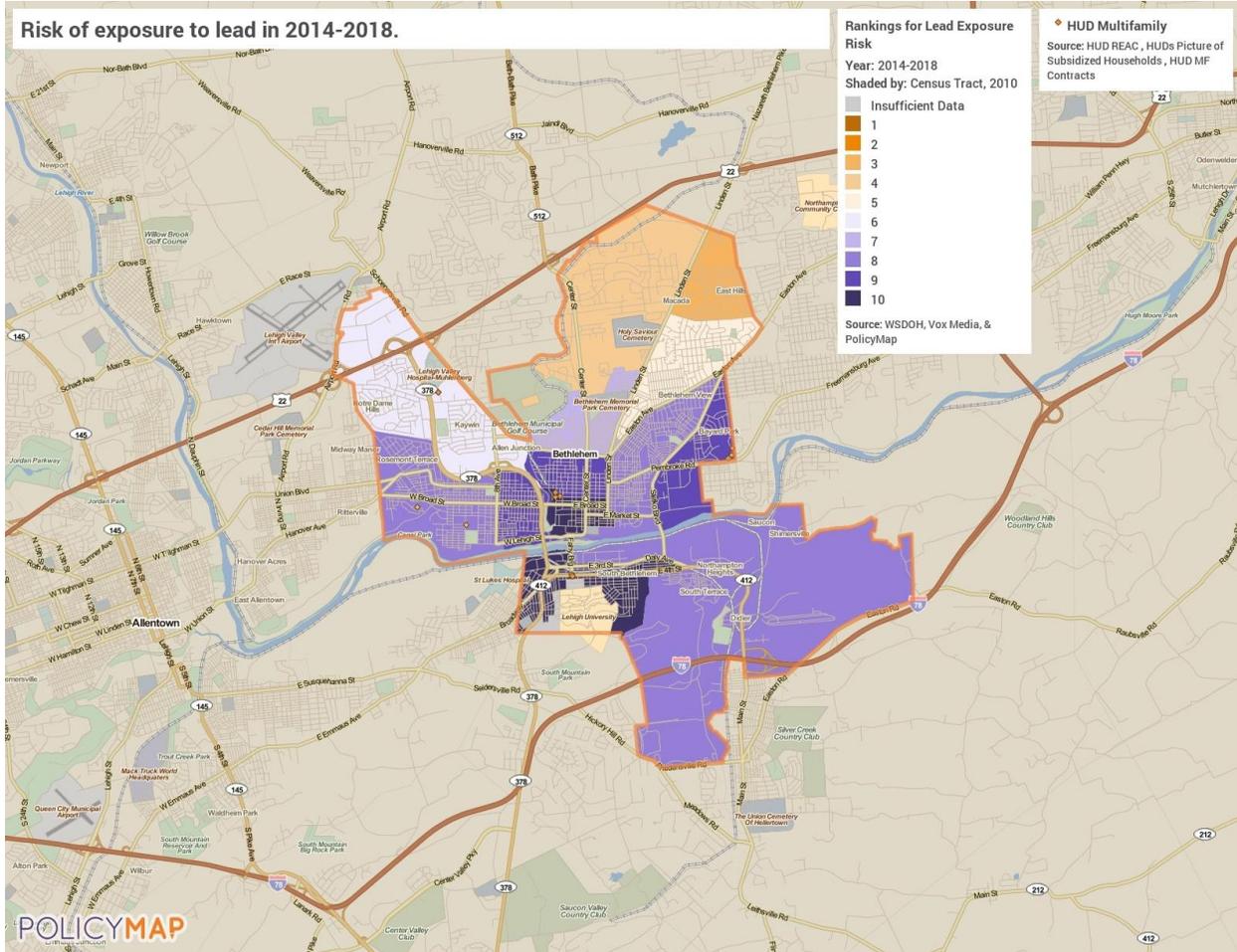
Rental Housing Built Before 1979

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	12,895	87%	11,140	78%
Housing Units build before 1980 with children present	650	4%	145	1%

Table 35 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS (Total Units) 2011-2015 CHAS (Units with Children present)



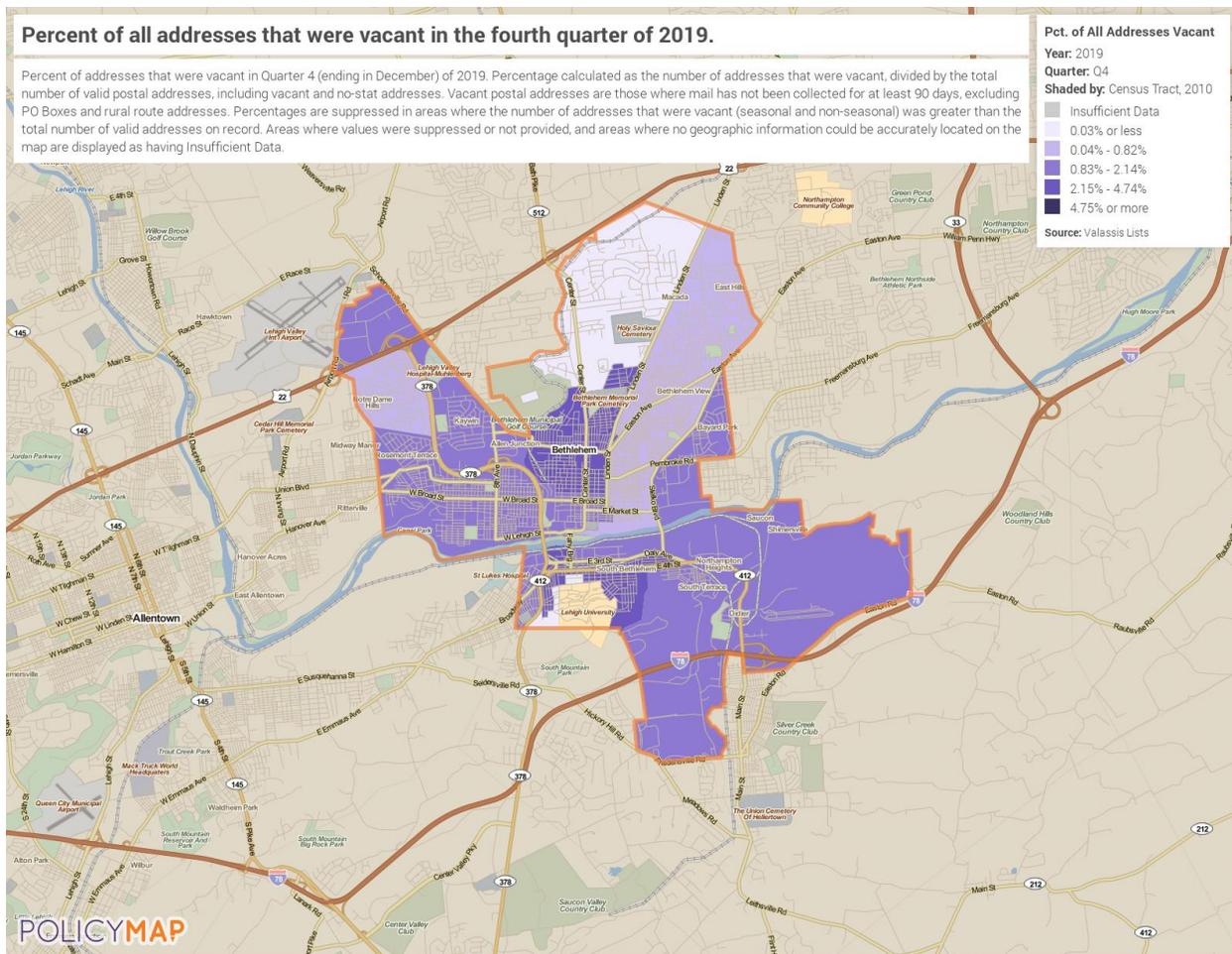
Risk Exposure to Lead

Vacant Units

	Suitable for Rehabilitation	Not Suitable for Rehabilitation	Total
Vacant Units	0	0	0
Abandoned Vacant Units	0	0	0
REO Properties	0	0	0
Abandoned REO Properties	0	0	0

Table 36 - Vacant Units

Data Source: 2005-2009 CHAS



% of All Addresses That Were Vacant in The Fourth Quarter of 2019

Need for Owner and Rental Rehabilitation

Currently the vacancy rate in Bethlehem is 2.1% for owner occupied units and 5% for renter occupied units according to the 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5 Year estimates. There is a great need to rehabilitate both renter-occupied units and owner-occupied units as a result of the aging housing stock in Bethlehem. There is in fact a higher vacancy rate among renter occupied units indicating a slightly greater need to rehabilitated renter occupied units in the City. Approximately 87% of owner-occupied units and 78% of the renter occupied units were constructed prior to 1980 which lends itself to a greater need for rehabilitation and continued housing maintenance. Bethlehem currently has a program to rehabilitate owner occupied units, as such, there is a slightly greater need to rehabilitate renter occupied units.

Estimated Number of Housing Units Occupied by Low or Moderate Income Families with LBP Hazards

Refer to Lead-Based Paint Hazards narratives in SP-65.

Discussion

As the data indicates, the housing stock in the city of Bethlehem is quite old compared to the general housing throughout the United States and especially the suburbs. In the City of Bethlehem approximately 82.5% of the housing stock was constructed prior to 1979 with only 17.5% of the total housing stock constructed in the last 35 years. As such both the owner occupied and renter occupied units have a significant number of units with at least one condition. Overall approximately 37.6% of the total units have at least one condition. The renter occupied units have a greater percentage of units needing repairs, reporting approximately 49.5% of the units with at least one condition while 26.2% of owner-occupied units reported at least one condition. The age of the housing stock also has a significant impact on the number of housing units that have a lead-based paint threat.

MA-25 Public and Assisted Housing – 91.210(b)

Introduction

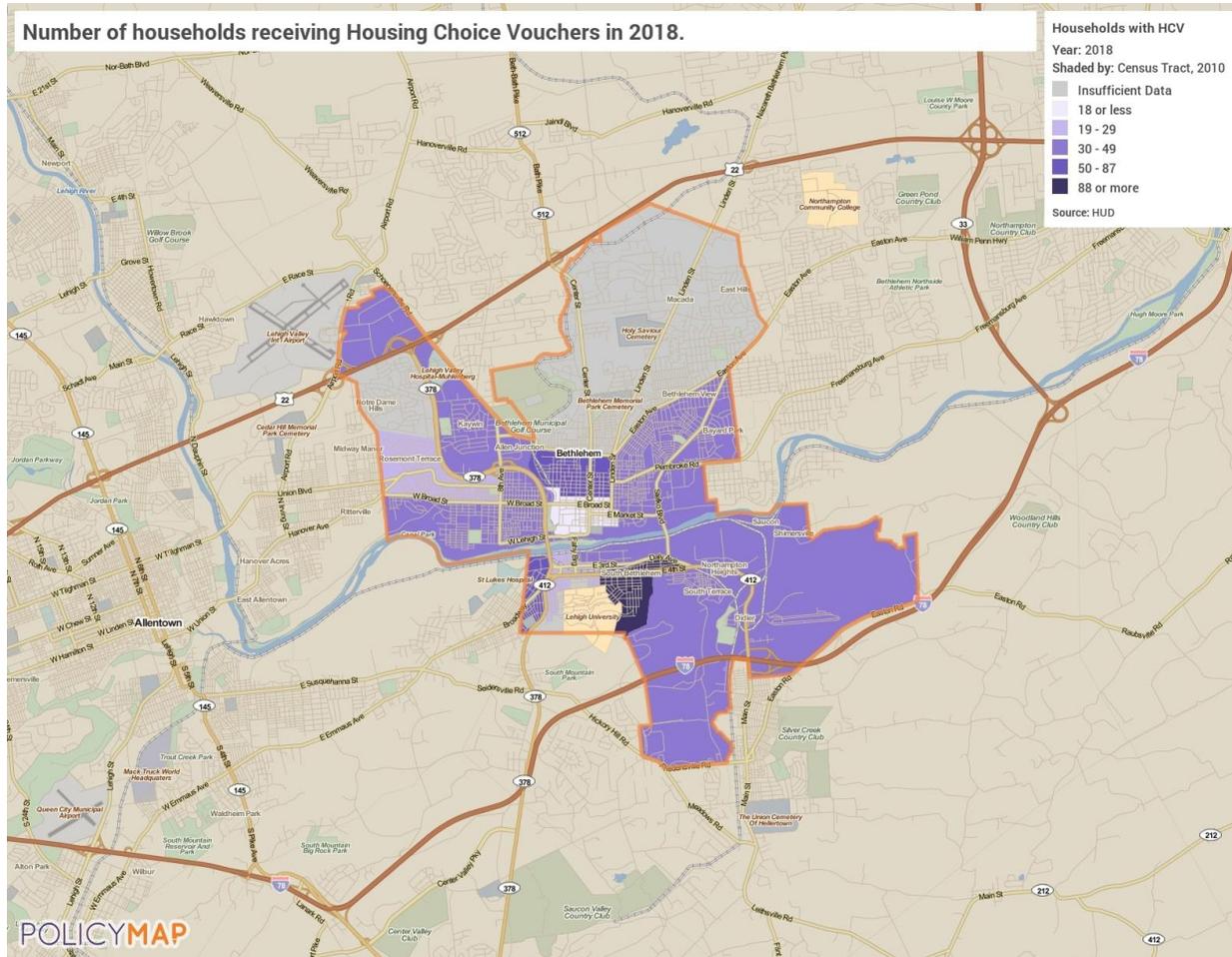
The Bethlehem Housing Authority conducted the Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS) Score Report for Interim Rule on July 23, 2019. PHAS Indicators include Physical, Financial and Capital Fund scores. The Authority reported a PHAS Total Score of 89 out of 100 indicating a Standard Performer.

Totals Number of Units

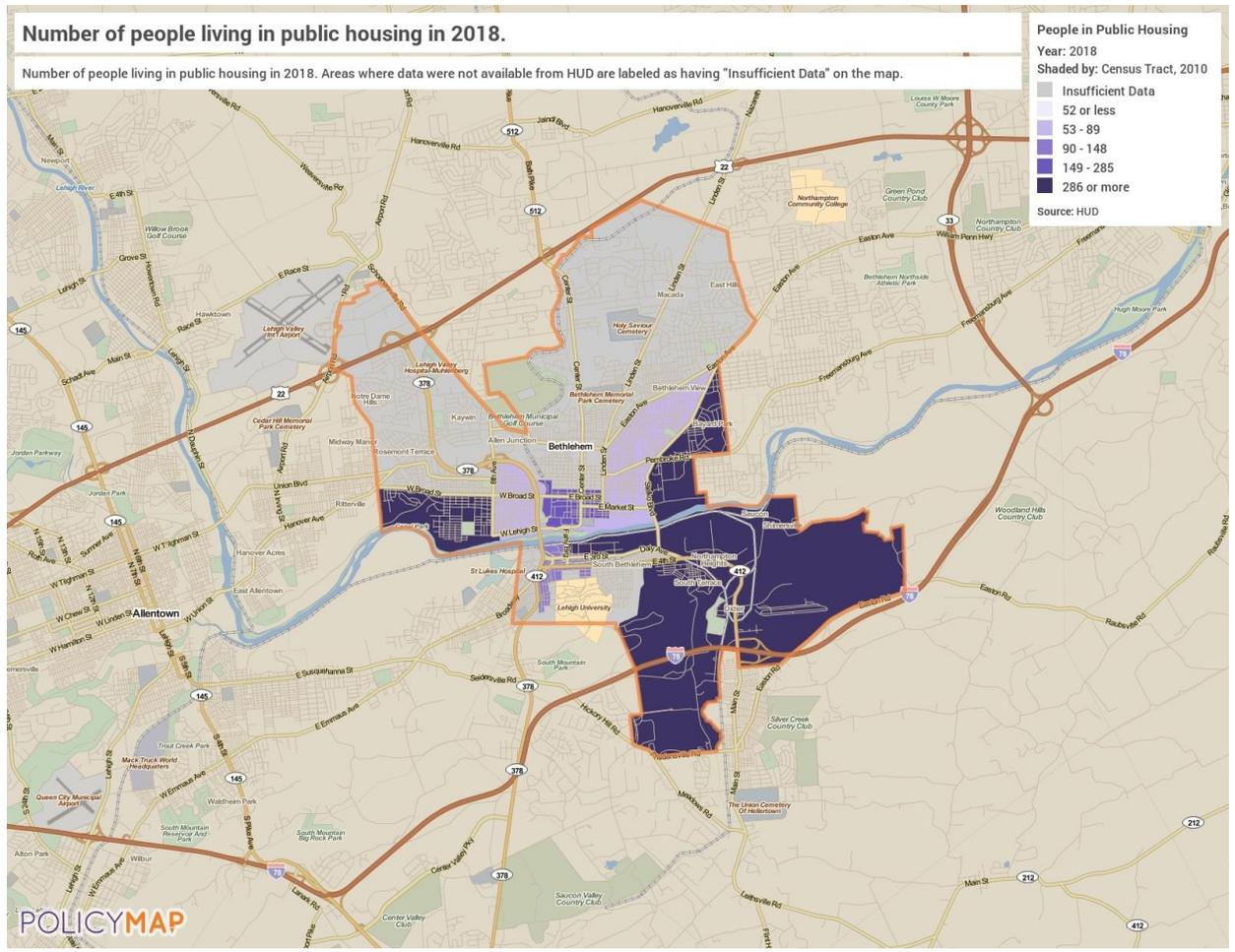
	Program Type									
	Certificate	Mod-Rehab	Public Housing	Vouchers						
				Total	Project -based	Tenant -based	Special Purpose Voucher			
							Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	Family Unification Program	Disabled *	
# of units vouchers available			1,454	497				0	0	0
# of accessible units										
*includes Non-Elderly Disabled, Mainstream One-Year, Mainstream Five-year, and Nursing Home Transition										

Table 37 – Total Number of Units by Program Type

Data Source: PIC (PIH Information Center)

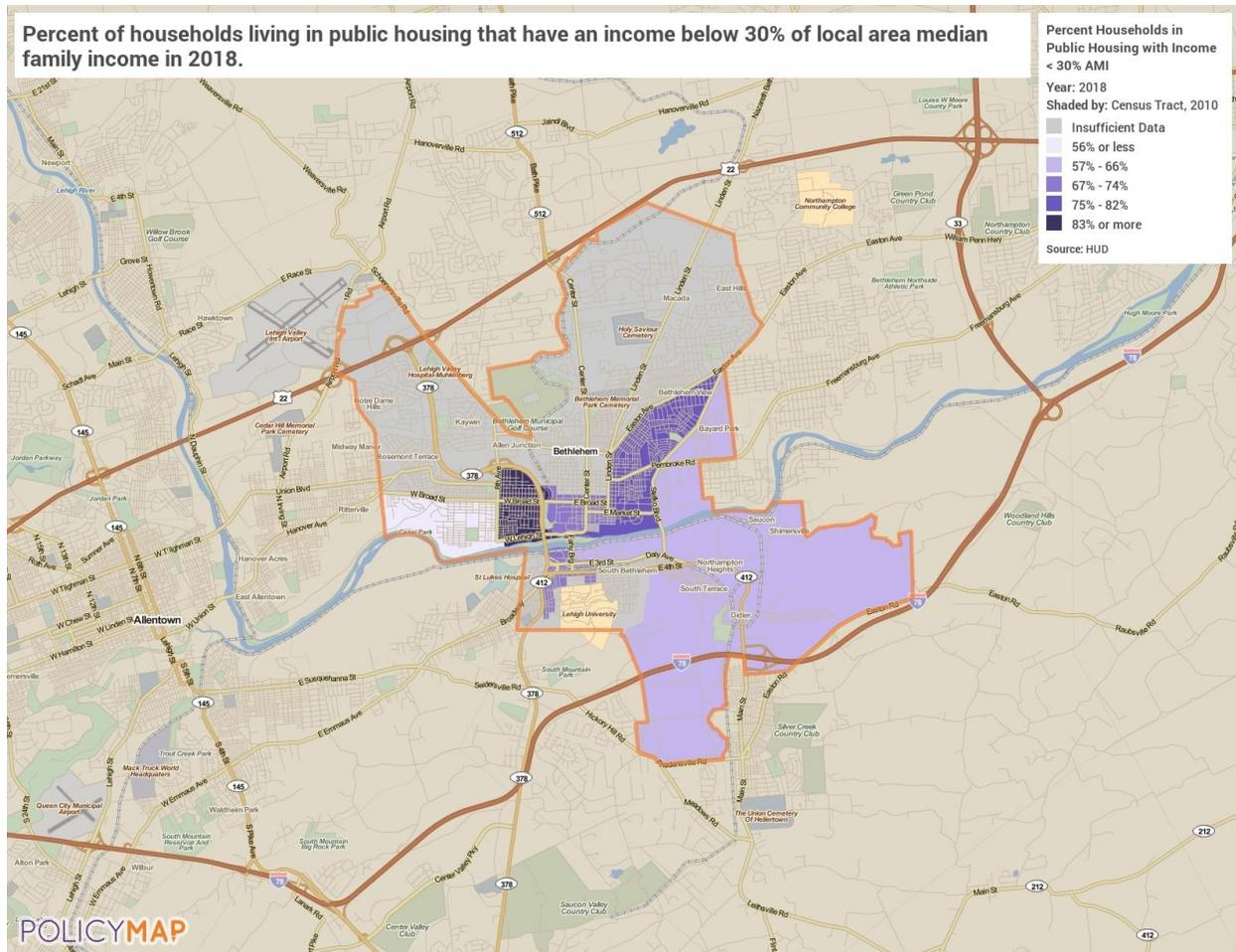


of HHs Receiving Housing Choice Voucher 2018



of Ppl. Living in Public Housing 2018

Percent of households living in public housing that have an income below 30% of local area median family income in 2018.



Pct HHs Living in Public Housing

- Litzenberger House with 101 elderly units, including 5 accessible units
- Lynfield I & II with 197 family general units & 3 elderly units, including 10 accessible units
- Marvine with 389 family general units, including 18 accessible units
- Monocacy Tower with 148 total elderly units, including 8 accessible units
- Pembroke with 196 family general units, including 10 accessible units
- Pfeifle Homes with 50 elderly units, including 3 accessible units
- Bodder House with 61 elderly units, including 4 accessible units
- Parkridge with 100 family general units, including 5 accessible units
- Bayard Homes with 20 elderly units, including 3 accessible units

Public Housing Condition

Public Housing Development	Average Inspection Score
Bartholomew House - APM #4	97
Fairmount Homes - AMP #1	74
Litzenberger House - APM #4	97
Lynfield Homes - AMP #3	89
Marvine - AMP #2	91
Monocacy Tower - APM #4	97
Pembroke - AMP #1	74
Pfeifle Homes - AMP #1	74
Bodder House - APM #4	97
Parkridge - AMP #3	89
Bayard Homes - AMP #5	96

Table 38 - Public Housing Condition

Describe the restoration and revitalization needs of public housing units in the jurisdiction:

According to the 2019 Streamlined PHA Annual Plan, the Bethlehem Housing Authority intends to renovate 29 units in the Lynfield Development.

According to the PHA, the following projects are needed or are in the process of being completed:

Monocacy - Regrade bank at Old York Road

Fairmount - Repave parking lots; Upgrade building exteriors for 24 buildings

Lynfield I - Renovate kitchens and baths; Replace entry doors; Install wood baseboards; Replace flooring (100 apartments) 50% COMPLETION

Lynfield II - Renovate kitchens and baths; Replace entry doors; Install wood baseboards; Replace flooring (97 apartments) 50 % COMPLETION

Parkridge - Renovate kitchens and baths; Install wood baseboards (100 apartments)

Litzenberger - Replace sidewalks

Describe the public housing agency's strategy for improving the living environment of low- and moderate-income families residing in public housing:

The Bethlehem Housing Authority, annually assesses the needs of each of the eleven public housing developments to determine renovation needs. Several developments have Resident Councils that participate in the Housing Authority's Resident Advisory Board which makes recommendations for management and physical improvements.

Discussion:

MA-30 Homeless Facilities and Services – 91.210(c)

Introduction

The City of Bethlehem is part of the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board (LV RHAB), which is the regional organization within the Pennsylvania Eastern Continuum of Care Collaborative. Agencies seeking funding through McKinney-Vento programs, including Supportive Housing Programs, Shelter Plus Care, etc. must be part of a cooperative effort within their communities. The Continuum of Care Plan includes the details on services and facilities available to the homeless throughout the region.

With the assistance of the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board (LV RHAB), the facilities and services specific to the City of Bethlehem have been identified. The facilities include emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent housing. Services include prevention activities, outreach, and emergency supportive services.

Each year, the Lehigh Valley RHAB applies for competitive federal grants for the region to provide homeless housing and support services. The CoC’s responsibilities include ensuring representation of key stakeholders; setting the agenda for full CoC planning meetings; conducting the annual homeless single Point-in-Time count; overseeing the various subcommittees and working groups; completing the annual CoC application; and assisting in reviewing programs, activities, data, and all other efforts that will eliminate homelessness and improve the well-being of homeless persons and families in Eastern Pennsylvania region.

Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

	Emergency Shelter Beds		Transitional Housing Beds	Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	
	Year Round Beds (Current & New)	Voucher / Seasonal / Overflow Beds	Current & New	Current & New	Under Development
Households with Adult(s) and Child(ren)	219	137	76	32	0
Households with Only Adults	116	137	88	171	0

	Emergency Shelter Beds		Transitional Housing Beds	Permanent Supportive Housing Beds	
	Year Round Beds (Current & New)	Voucher / Seasonal / Overflow Beds	Current & New	Current & New	Under Development
Chronically Homeless Households	0	0	0	198	0
Veterans	0	0	19	7	0
Unaccompanied Youth	12	0	1	0	0

Table 39 - Facilities and Housing Targeted to Homeless Households

Data Source Comments:

Describe mainstream services, such as health, mental health, and employment services to the extent those services are used to complement services targeted to homeless persons

Emergency Support Services

Several agencies in the County provide short-term emergency assistance to the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless. Food baskets and vouchers are supplied by agencies such as the American Red Cross, Catholic Charities, the Hispanic Center of the Lehigh Valley, New Bethany Ministries, the Salvation Army, Second Harvest Food Bank and local church organizations.

A variety of Supportive Services are provided by the following agencies in the areas of Case Management (CM), Life Skills (LS), Alcohol & Drug Abuse (DA), Mental Health Counseling (MHC), Healthcare (H), HIV/AIDS (HIV), Education (Ed), Employment (Em), Child Care (CC) and Transportation (T).

AIDSNET – HIV

ARC of Lehigh & Northampton Counties – Em

Bethlehem Area Vocational-Technical School – Em

Career Link (WIB) – Em

Community Action Committee of Lehigh Valley – CM, LS

Community Services for Children - Ed

Council of Spanish Speaking Organizations of Lehigh Valley – Em

Head Start of the Lehigh Valley – Ed, CC

Hispanic Center of Lehigh Valley -- CM, LS

LANTA METRO – T

LANTA METRO PLUS – T

New Bethany Ministries – CM, LS

Northampton Co. Mental Health, Mental Retardation, Drug & Alcohol – AD, MHC

Step By Step, Inc. – CM, LS, DA, MHC

Salvation Army – CM, LS

Turning Point of Lehigh Valley – CM, LS

Unity House of Bethlehem – MHC

Valley Youth House – CM, LS

VAST – T

VIA – Ed

Victory House of the Lehigh Valley – CM, LS

Work/Life Center (Northampton Community College) – Ed

Information/Referral and Outreach

The Area Agency on Aging provides a 24-hour response service called the Personal Emergency Response System. This system provides two-way communication equipment for the frail elderly to allow them immediate access to emergency assistance. In addition the non-profit organization, Turning Point

operates a Domestic Abuse Hotline that is likewise available on a 24/7 basis. Valley Youth House provides Street Outreach services. Other emergency situations require the use of the County 911 system.

Homeless Prevention Services

In addition, the following agencies also provide Mortgage Assistance (MA), Rental Assistance (RA), Utilities Assistance (UA), Counseling/Advocacy (CA) and Legal Assistance (LA) where needed to prevent homelessness.

Alliance for Building Communities – CA

Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley – CA

New Bethany Ministries -- RA, UA

Lehigh & Northampton County Assistance Offices (Emergency Shelter Allowance) – RA

Lehigh & Northampton County Assistance Offices (LIHEAP) – UA

Neighborhood Housing Services of the Lehigh Valley – CA

North Penn Legal Services – LA

Salvation Army – MA, RA, UA

List and describe services and facilities that meet the needs of homeless persons, particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth. If the services and facilities are listed on screen SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure or screen MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services, describe how these facilities and services specifically address the needs of these populations.

Through the Continuum of Care (CoC), individuals and families have access to services including outreach services, emergency shelter, transitional housing, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing. These resources are available through Connect to Home, the CoC's Coordinated Entry system.

Homeless outreach services connect individual experiencing homelessness residing in an unsheltered situation, who are often the least likely to engage in the traditional homeless service system, the opportunity to receive services where they are including access to services/referrals and support with immediate needs.

For individuals and families experiencing an immediate housing crisis, emergency shelter provides an immediate resource to help the individual/family stabilize and access referrals to access housing-

focused case management to identify alternate housing resources in the community or access referrals to longer-term housing resources through the Continuum of Care.

In recent years, HUD funding has expanded for Rapid Rehousing (RRH) interventions, which provides short to medium term rental assistance (typically 3 to 6 months, or up to 12 months) for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Rapid Rehousing programs provide rental assistance and security deposits as well as landlord advocacy, assistance with finding affordable housing and case management assistance to families and/or individuals who are homeless with the goal of moving them into permanent housing. Rapid Rehousing is often used as an intervention for families with children, in order to quickly stabilize families experiencing homelessness in community-based housing.

MA-35 Special Needs Facilities and Services – 91.210(d)

Introduction

Certain population groups require supportive services and/or supportive housing, either on a permanent basis or on a temporary basis. Many special needs populations are very low-income households (below 50% of Median Family Income) because they are not able to work or can only work part-time. Special population groups include the frail elderly, the physically and developmentally disabled, severely mentally ill persons, persons with HIV/AIDS and those with substance abuse issues. Many Special Needs individuals rely on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for financial support. SSI provides income support to persons 65 years and over, the blind and the disabled.

Since so many special needs persons have limited incomes, finding affordable and accessible housing is often a serious challenge. Even when new affordable rental housing is developed, the rental rates for the housing units are often too high for many.

One common concern is that more and larger housing units are needed to accommodate families taking care of the individuals with special needs. Many families would like to take care of their own family members with special needs, if supportive services, respite for caregivers and appropriate accommodations could be provided. In the case for the physically disabled population and persons with AIDS/HIV, much of the supportive housing can only accommodate the individual with special needs, isolating him from the supportive environment of a family.

Another concern is that most housing programs/facilities fail to recognize the persons with special needs often have multiple special needs. Most residential facilities are often targeted for single specific conditions, such as the mentally ill, the developmentally disabled or substance abusers.

Including the elderly, frail elderly, persons with disabilities (mental, physical, developmental), persons with alcohol or other drug addictions, persons with HIV/AIDS and their families, public housing residents and any other categories the jurisdiction may specify, and describe their supportive housing needs

The Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board is participating with other state Continuum of Cares through the PA Homeless Steering Committee to develop partnerships with state agencies that operate programs that discharge individuals to homelessness. Progress has been made with several agencies. Discharge planning for persons with mental health issues is coordinated with the County Offices of Mental Health. Discharge from health care facilities is difficult due to the special needs and time frame involved in discharge. The PA Homeless Steering Committee is working with the state Department of Health, Division of Acute and Ambulatory Care to research and establish protocols.

Describe programs for ensuring that persons returning from mental and physical health institutions receive appropriate supportive housing

The Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board is participating with other state Continuum of Cares through the PA Homeless Steering Committee to develop partnerships with state agencies that operate programs that discharge individuals to homelessness. Progress has been made with several agencies. Discharge planning for persons with mental health issues is coordinated with the County Offices of Mental Health. Discharge from health care facilities is difficult due to the special needs and time frame involved in discharge. The PA Homeless Steering Committee is working with the state Department of Health, Division of Acute and Ambulatory Care to research and establish protocols.

Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. 91.315(e)

The City intends to create and increase homeownership opportunities by investing in the rehabilitation housing units for low income families. The City's owner-occupied housing rehab program helps keep homeowners in their homes and out of the homeless or social support system.

The Representative Payee Program operated by New Bethany Ministries provides financial management services - including paying rent on time - to individuals with mental health and other challenges.

The Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living's PLACE program helps locate housing for special needs residents.

For entitlement/consortia grantees: Specify the activities that the jurisdiction plans to undertake during the next year to address the housing and supportive services needs identified in accordance with 91.215(e) with respect to persons who are not homeless but have other special needs. Link to one-year goals. (91.220(2))

N/A

MA-40 Barriers to Affordable Housing – 91.210(e)

Negative Effects of Public Policies on Affordable Housing and Residential Investment

The City of Bethlehem on an ongoing basis examines the City's public policies with regard to the costs of housing to the incentives to develop, maintain or improve affordable housing in the City. The City's Zoning Ordinance provides for a variety of housing types and various densities and varying lot sizes. This variety reduces the potential for barriers to affordable housing as a result of regulatory policies. In addition, the City's Zoning Ordinance allows for emergency shelters, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing and group homes for the disabled. Bethlehem does not impose impact fees for development and permit fees are reasonable. Additionally, the city's Zoning Ordinance has a chapter on Workforce Housing Incentives to allow greater density when incorporating affordable housing units.

The City has historically allocated CDBG and HOME resources for direct housing assistance, including its Housing Rehabilitation Assistance Program for lower income home owners, the Down payment and Closing Cost Assistance Program to assist first time buyers, rehabilitation assistance to non-profit organizations for creation of transitional housing and affordable rental and for sale housing.

The City continues to fund the Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living to assist disabled persons obtain and maintain housing. Funds have also been used to assist housing related initiatives including the Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley and Neighborhood Housing Services of the Lehigh Valley, both of which are HUD certified housing counselors.

Bethlehem implements Lead Safe practices in carrying out rehab activities whenever possible using funds from the CDBG and HOME Programs and maintains a pool of qualified contractors to effectively and efficiently address lead-based paint hazards.

The City's Health Bureau receives funding from the state's Lead Hazard Control Program to control lead-based paint hazards in target housing in high risk areas. The City performs eligibility determinations on potentially eligible units, prioritizing units and performing lead-based paint combined inspection/risk assessments, lead-based paint hazard control related procedures and clearance procedures on those units.

The City's Code Enforcement Office works to see that codes are properly enforced and encourages affordable housing developers to introduce innovative/cost effective construction techniques and act as liaison between City and developers.

The City will utilize the Zoning Ordinance to work with private developers to utilize a density bonus to foster affordable housing development within the City. The City will advocate for other regulatory options to increase affordable housing.

Additionally, the city will incorporate affordable housing requirements into development incentives, such as Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance and Tax Increment Financing, when appropriate.

The City will continue programs to improve the housing stock occupied by low and moderate income households and to assist lower income persons to become home owners. Assistance to developers of affordable housing, for both owners and renters will be ongoing. Assistance to low and moderate income homeowners for housing rehabilitation, assistance to low and moderate income households to become homeowners, assistance to for-profit and non-profit developers to create affordable for sale housing and rental housing and to rehabilitate existing affordable rental developments for their continued viability as affordable units

MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets – 91.215 (f)

Introduction

Bethlehem is one of the economic centers of the Lehigh Valley, and it encompasses major employers in the form of universities, hospitals, casino-hotels, and large retail establishments.

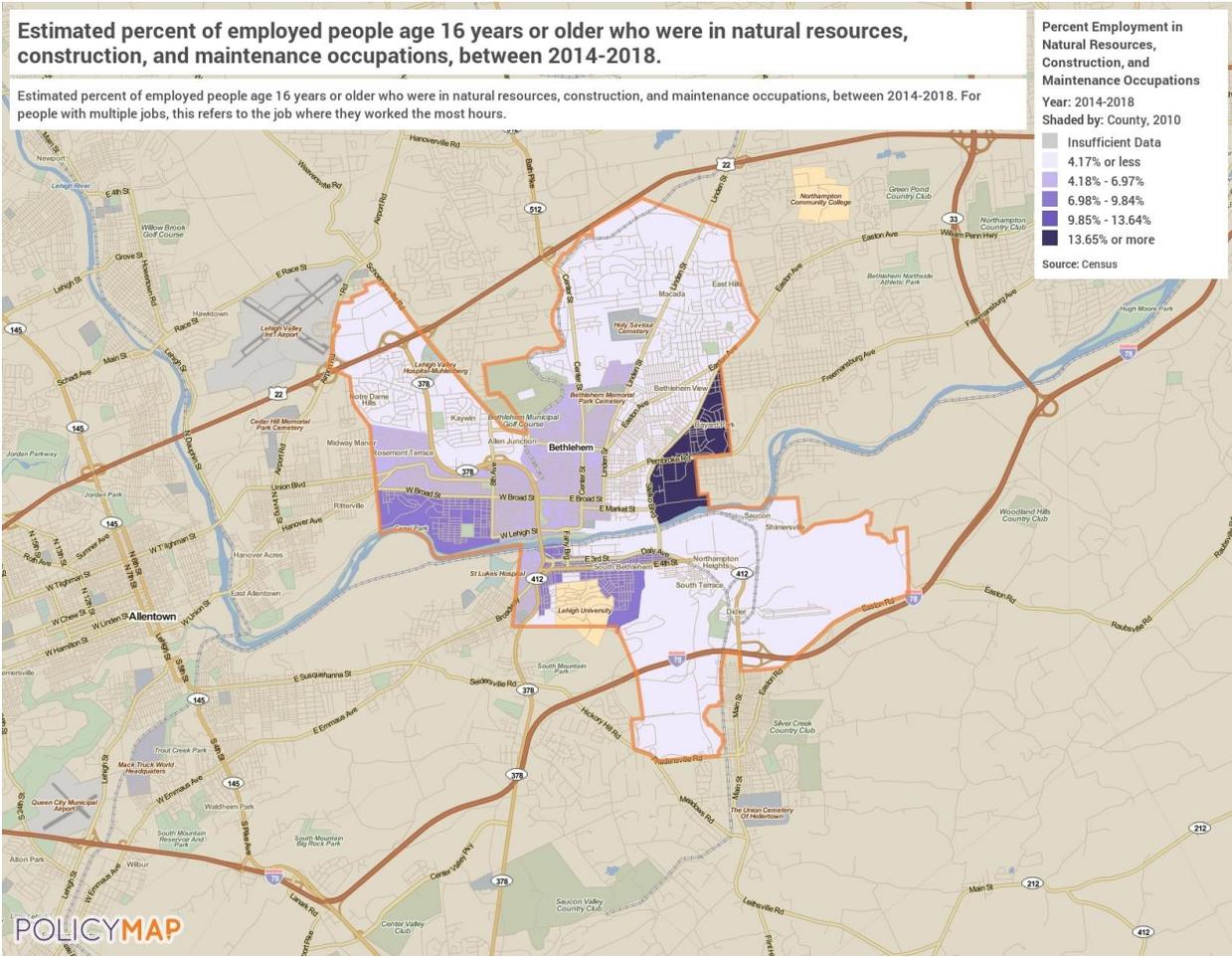
Economic Development Market Analysis

Business Activity

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Agriculture, Mining, Oil & Gas Extraction	82	10	0	0	0
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	3,617	5,443	13	18	5
Construction	1,148	1,083	4	3	-1
Education and Health Care Services	7,037	9,661	26	31	5
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	1,668	1,947	6	6	0
Information	632	968	2	3	1
Manufacturing	3,143	3,342	11	11	0
Other Services	999	947	4	3	-1
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	2,546	2,616	9	8	-1
Public Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Retail Trade	3,653	2,856	13	9	-4
Transportation and Warehousing	1,691	1,333	6	4	-2
Wholesale Trade	1,370	763	5	2	-3
Total	27,586	30,969	--	--	--

Table 40 - Business Activity

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS (Workers), 2015 Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (Jobs)



Natural Resources, Construction, Maintenance

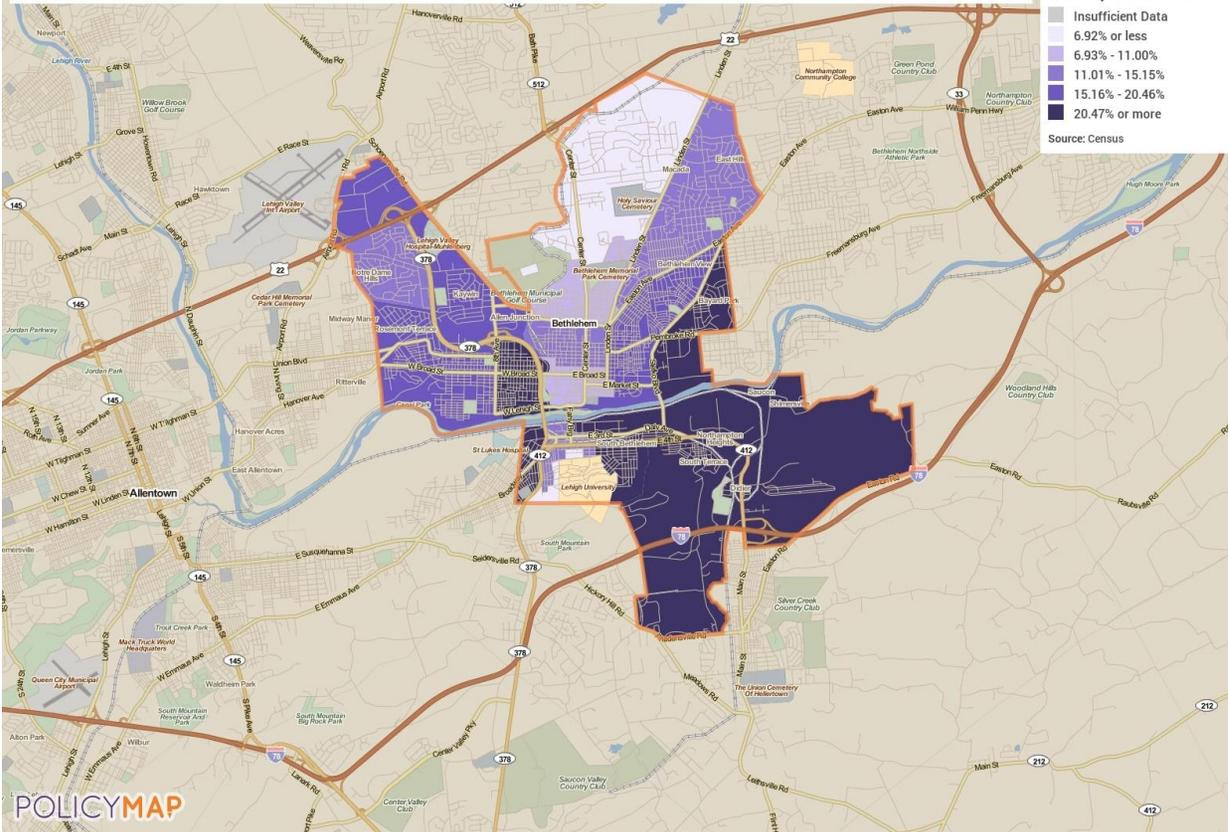
Estimated percent of employed people age 16 years or older who were in production, transportation, and material moving occupations, between 2014-2018.

Estimated percent of employed people age 16 years or older who were in production, transportation, and material moving occupations, between 2014-2018. For people with multiple jobs, this refers to the job where they worked the most hours.

Percent Employment in Production, Transportation, and Material Moving Occupations
 Year: 2014-2018
 Shaded by: Census Tract, 2010

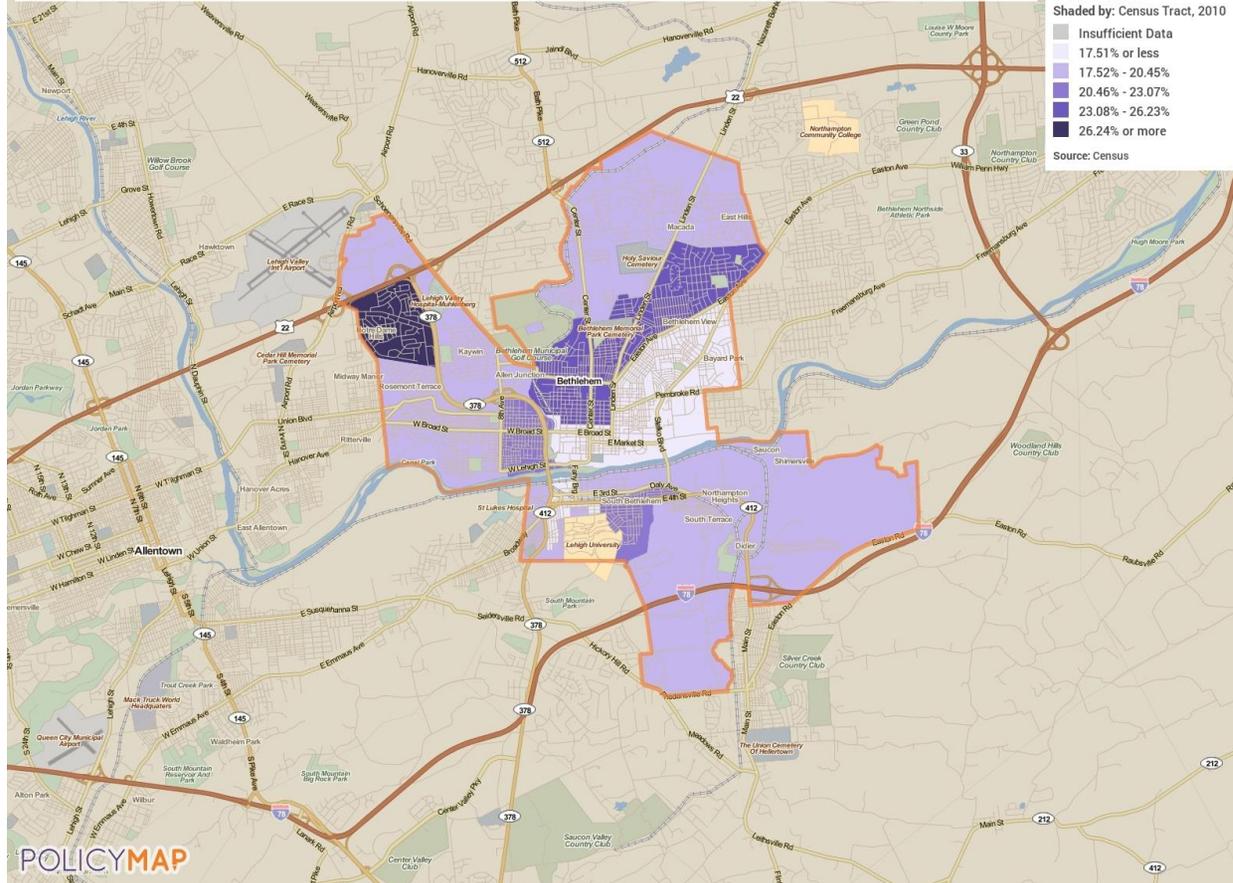
- Insufficient Data
- 6.92% or less
- 6.93% - 11.00%
- 11.01% - 15.15%
- 15.16% - 20.46%
- 20.47% or more

Source: Census



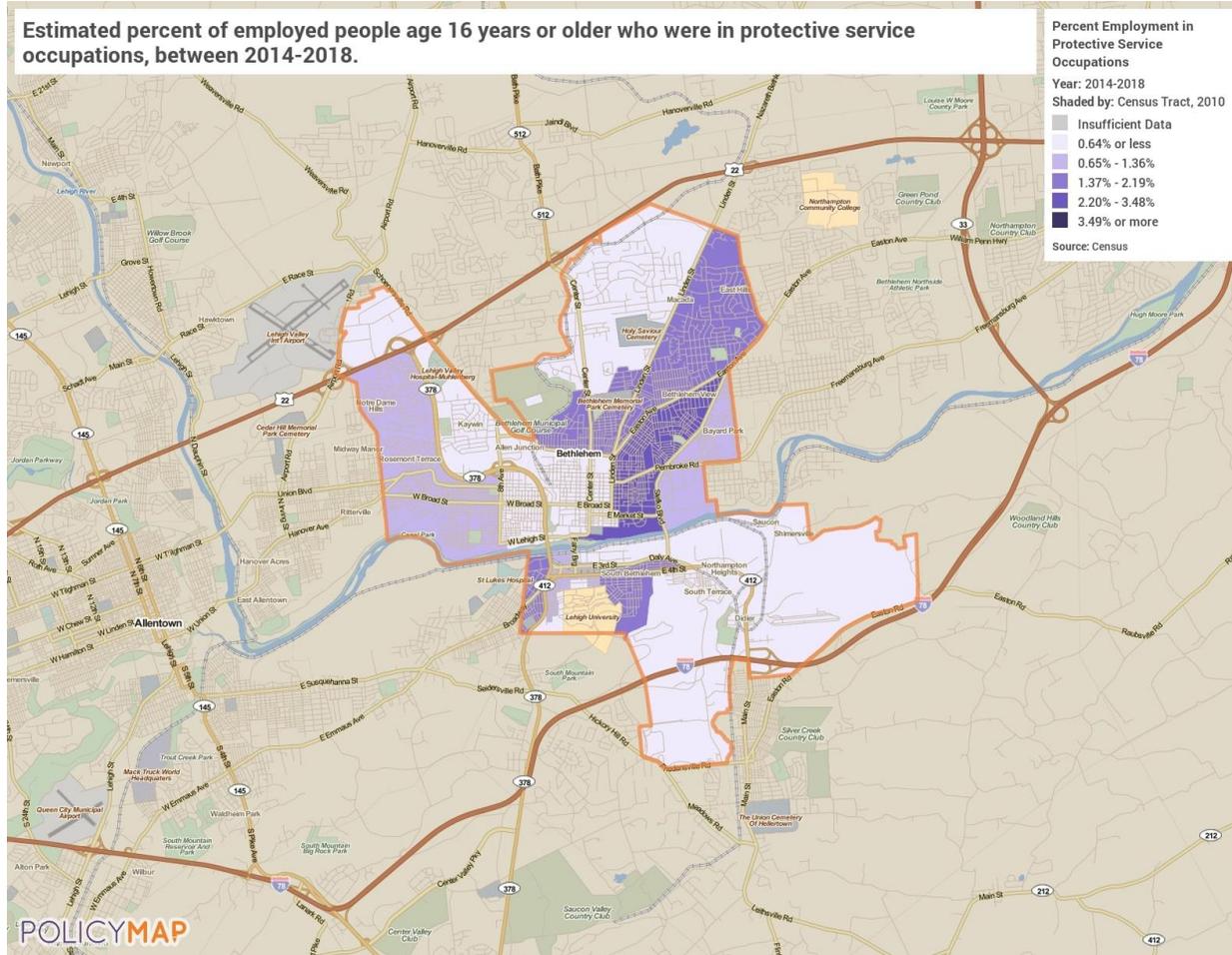
Production, Transportation, & Material

Estimated percent of employed people age 16 years or older who were in sales and office occupations, between 2014-2018.



Sales and Office

Estimated percent of employed people age 16 years or older who were in protective service occupations, between 2014-2018.



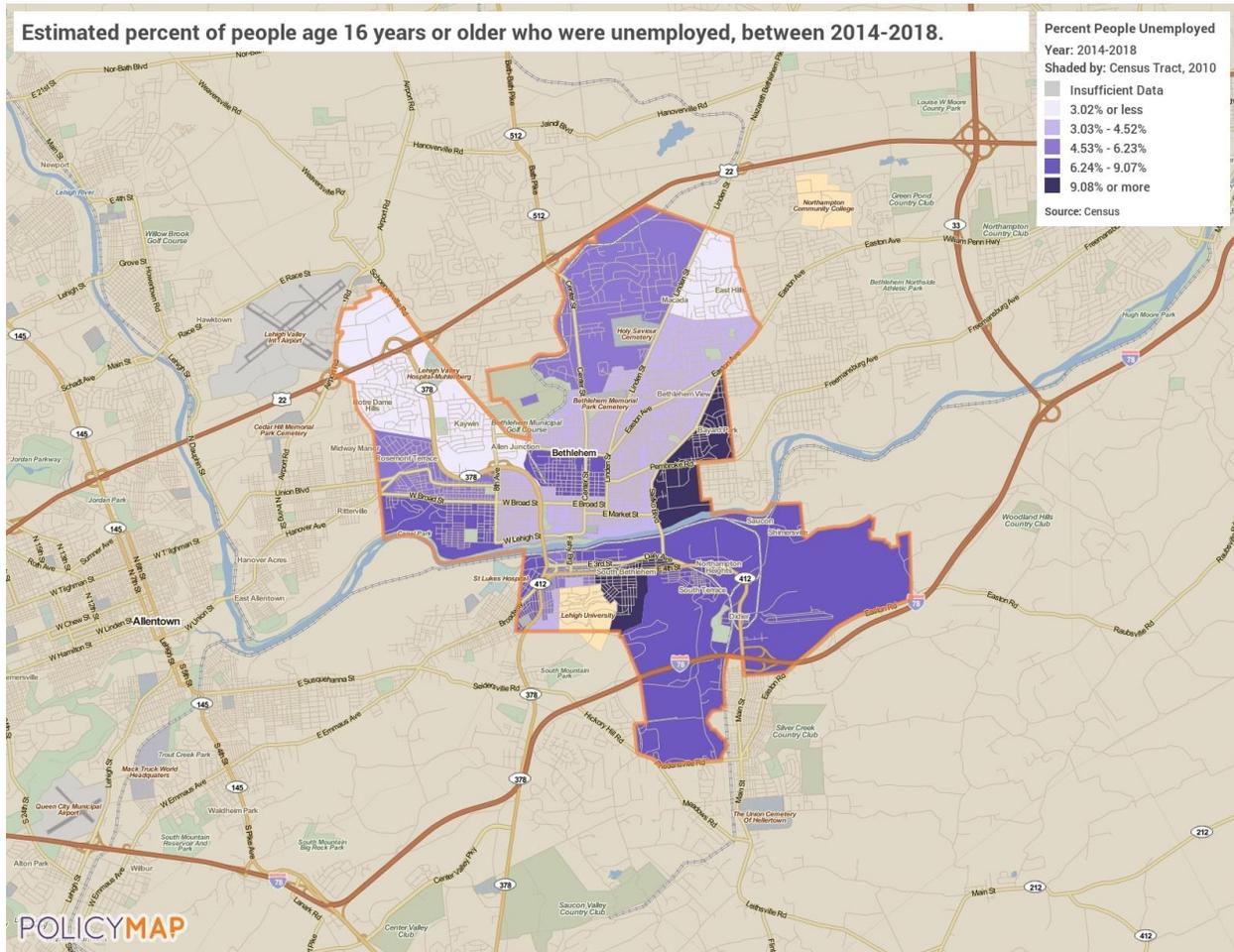
Service

Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	37,155
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	34,385
Unemployment Rate	7.48
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	12.91
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	5.14

Table 41 - Labor Force

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS



Unemployment

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Management, business and financial	7,160
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	1,415
Service	4,310
Sales and office	8,390

Occupations by Sector	Number of People
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	1,774
Production, transportation and material moving	1,720

Table 42 – Occupations by Sector

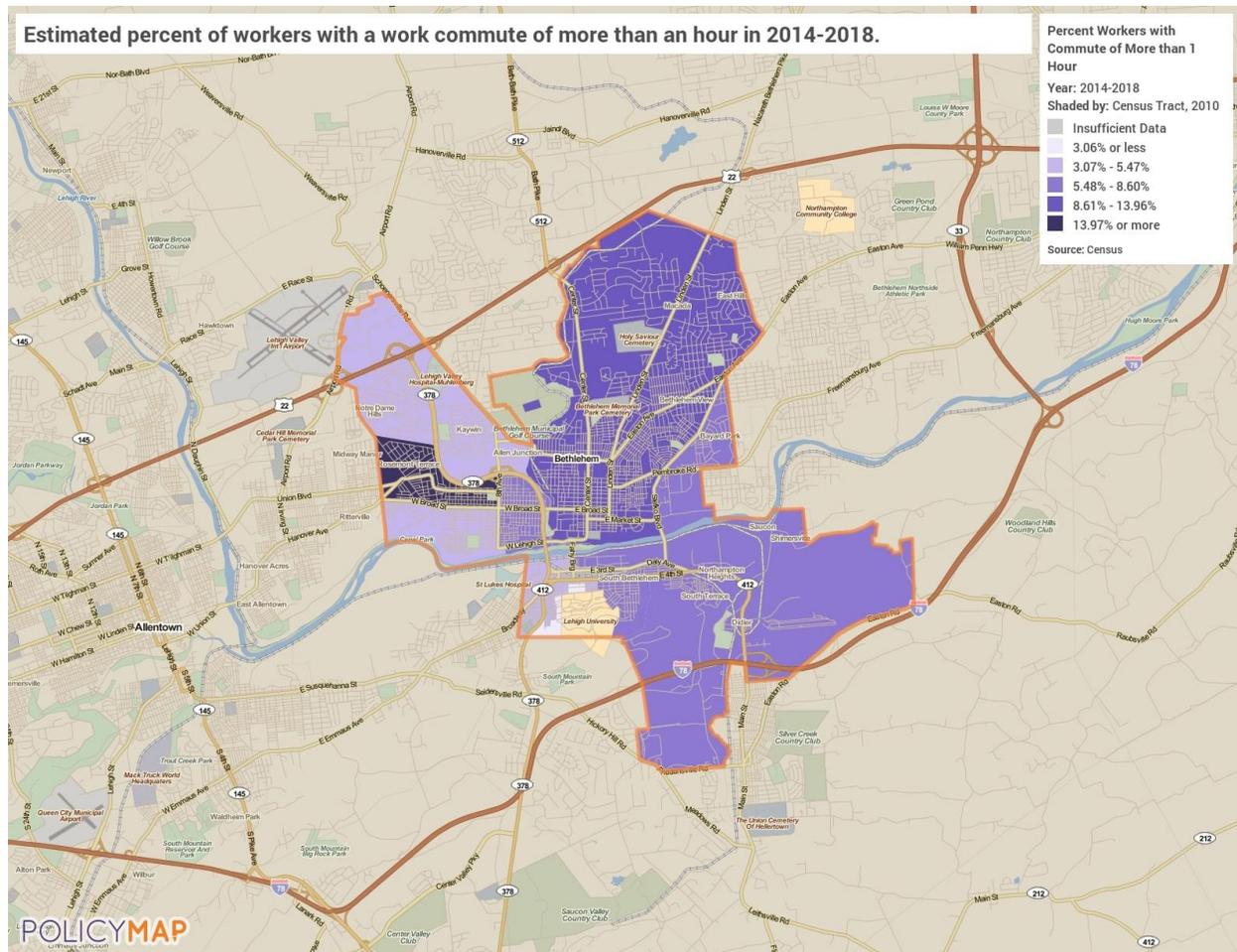
Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	23,700	73%
30-59 Minutes	6,340	20%
60 or More Minutes	2,465	8%
Total	32,505	100%

Table 43 - Travel Time

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS



+1 Hr Commute

Education:

Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	1,785	300	1,525
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	8,030	770	2,925
Some college or Associate's degree	8,565	490	2,225
Bachelor's degree or higher	8,695	350	1,500

Table 44 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status

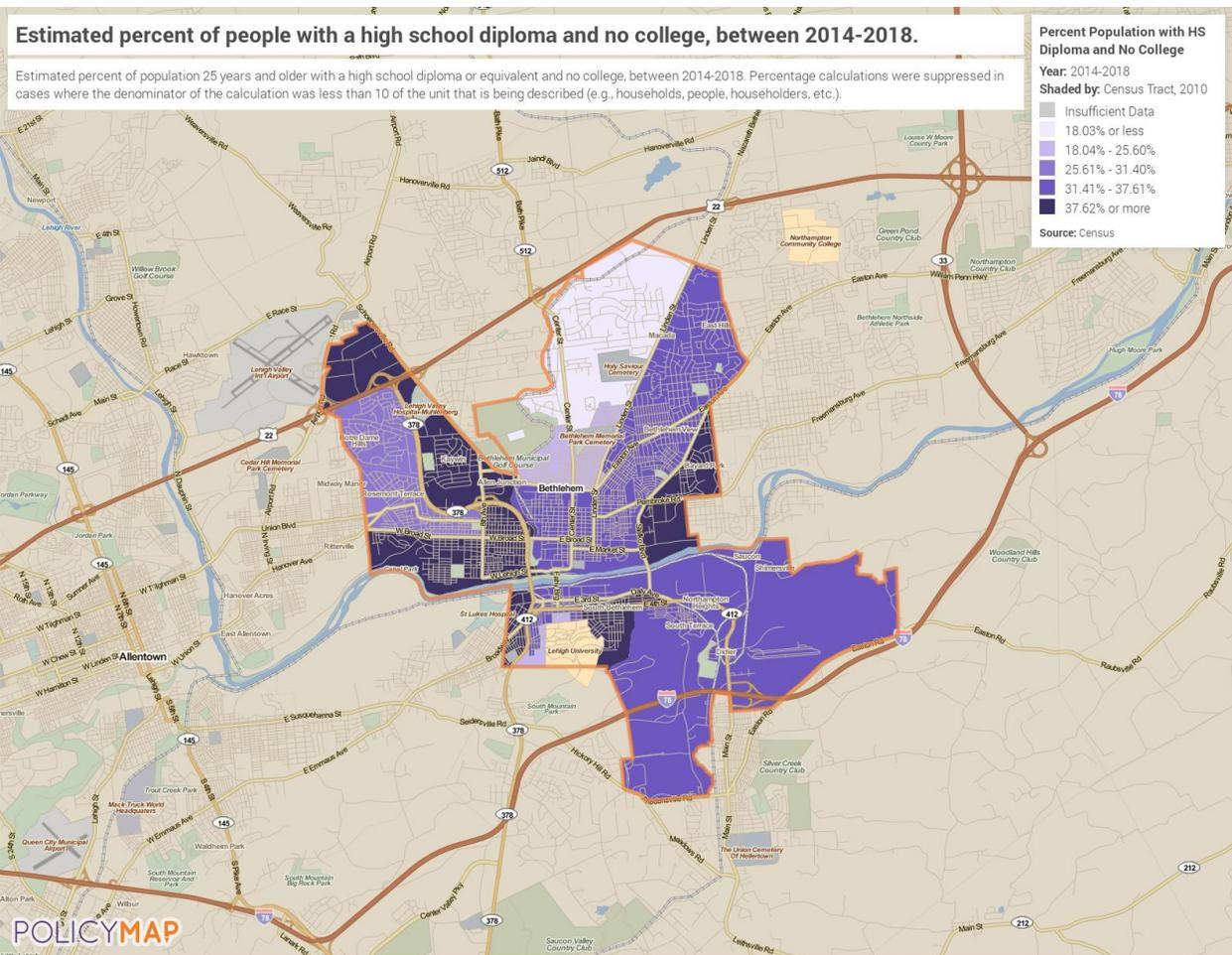
Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Educational Attainment by Age

	Age				
	18–24 yrs	25–34 yrs	35–44 yrs	45–65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	50	155	195	700	1,505
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	880	570	670	1,325	1,255
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	2,920	2,695	2,800	6,225	4,590
Some college, no degree	6,570	2,545	1,805	3,875	1,445
Associate's degree	280	785	760	1,525	425
Bachelor's degree	1,070	2,365	1,245	2,610	1,260
Graduate or professional degree	145	1,920	840	1,565	1,245

Table 45 - Educational Attainment by Age

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS



Estimated percent of people with a high school diploma and no college

Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	36,062
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	60,105
Some college or Associate's degree	63,622
Bachelor's degree	84,994
Graduate or professional degree	113,948

Table 46 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months

Data Source: 2011-2015 ACS

Based on the Business Activity table above, what are the major employment sectors within your jurisdiction?

The plurality of workers are employed in the Education and Health Care Services Sectors, accounting for 25.5% of workers. With Bethlehem being the home of Lehigh University, Moravian College and Satellite

Campus of Northampton Community College, as well as a large public-school district. As well as several hospitals Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network, St. Luke's Hospital. The second greatest number of workers are in the retail trade, and with the Outlets at Wind Creek Bethlehem, and the Westgate Mall providing jobs. And the third most amount of jobs are in Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations, which many of the jobs at the Wind Creek Casino-Hotel, Banana Factory and SteelStacks fall under. The top three job sectors account for 51.9% of workers in Bethlehem.

Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community:

Downtown redevelopment, primarily the commercial areas of South Bethlehem, is an on-going activity in the City. The City continues to develop its employment base and revitalize its neighborhoods and public facilities.

In the long term Bethlehem will continue to support activities and programs that provide a stable and balanced economic base. The City intends to continue the development of affordable housing for both renters and homeownership. The reconstruction of deteriorating infrastructure and upgrading of existing public facilities are of the highest priority in conjunction with complete ADA accessibility of all of the City.

Describe any major changes that may have an economic impact, such as planned local or regional public or private sector investments or initiatives that have affected or may affect job and business growth opportunities during the planning period. Describe any needs for workforce development, business support or infrastructure these changes may create.

How do the skills and education of the current workforce correspond to employment opportunities in the jurisdiction?

The City is fortunate to have a well-educated workforce that allows local businesses to select those best to guarantee their success. 87.2% of the Work Force according the HUD Table above are at least high school graduates and 59.5% have at least some college or an Associate's degree.

Describe any current workforce training initiatives, including those supported by Workforce Investment Boards, community colleges and other organizations. Describe how these efforts will support the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan.

Bethlehem's workforce development programs are coordinated through the Lehigh Valley Workforce Investment Board, (WIB.) Among the goals of the 2012-2017 WIB Plan are the following:

- (A) Support training opportunities in critical skills gaps occupations;
- (B) Provide priority status to Veterans who use our workforce system;
- (C) Increase the pipeline of workers entering skills trades occupations;
- (D) Upgrade the skills of PA CareerLink® Lehigh Valley professionals to ensure a workforce system focused on employment, training, and career pathways.

These goals are being implemented by the City of Bethlehem in a variety of different ways.

Does your jurisdiction participate in a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)?

Yes

If so, what economic development initiatives are you undertaking that may be coordinated with the Consolidated Plan? If not, describe other local/regional plans or initiatives that impact economic growth.

From the Lehigh Valley CEDS Introduction: The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy refers to the planning process and document generated from it which sets forth the Lehigh Valley’s economic development vision, goals, strategies, and priorities for the future.

The Lehigh Valley CEDS identifies six (6) Bethlehem projects;

- South Main Street Parking Solutions, including a new Parking Garage - \$10M;
- Majestic Bethlehem Center; Redevelopment of 441 acres at the former Bethlehem Steel site - \$500M; City and Majestic requesting \$5M from state RACP and \$2M from federal EDA - completed
- Southside Parking Structure; Parking Garage in South Bethlehem commercial district - \$5.5M; City requesting 2.75M from state RACP Program
- 4th and Broadway Parking Garage; - \$7.5M; City requesting 3M from state RACP Program - completed
- Martin Tower; Preservation and reuse of 21 story office building on the former Bethlehem Steel site - \$200M; City and Martin Tower Development requesting \$8.3M from state RACP Program and \$*M - .
Note: The Martin Tower was imploded in 2019, and is slated to be a mixed-use development of 312 garden-style apartments, retail, medical office buildings, a hotel and a gas station.

- Lehigh University Science and Technology Infrastructure; New construction of a state-of-the-art Science, Technology, Environment, Policy & Society Building - \$103M; The City and Lehigh University are requesting \$10M from state RACP Program

The Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation commissioned the undertaking of a new CEDS in August 2019. As appropriate, this Consolidated Plan may be updated with the results of the completed CEDS.

Discussion

MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion

Are there areas where households with multiple housing problems are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")

The CHAS data on housing problems does not provide block group level statistics. Also, the CPD maps do not include housing with multiple problems. Therefore, no specific areas with multiple housing problems can be identified.

Are there any areas in the jurisdiction where racial or ethnic minorities or low-income families are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")

Low income families are concentrated on the Southside in the areas bordering Lehigh University, as well as in the section of the central/Northside in the area along the river bordering Freemansburg.

The minority population of Bethlehem is primarily found on the Southside, though the area with the highest rate of minority population is found on the Northside or Central Bethlehem, along the river bordering Freemansburg, in fact that area is also the only area of the North or West Side with a majority -minority population. While there are several areas of the Southside with majority minority populations.

What are the characteristics of the market in these areas/neighborhoods?

The Southside Neighborhoods are transitioning rapidly. New commercial enterprises are opening up along East 3rd Street, the Southside's major retail. These new retail enterprises largely local entrepreneurs are opening their doors in some of the historic buildings that exist in the neighborhood. That in turn, opens the possibility of redevelopment in the upper floors of those structures to provide new rental housing. There are new residential housing complexes completed and under construction or in the planning process on the Southside. There is also a new arts district that provides concerts and has started a mural program.

In the Northside Neighborhoods, Bethlehem's historic downtown continues to redevelop, with new office, hospitality and retail venues helping to revitalize the City Center. The renovation of historic structures in this area as new, rental or other housing will also help to enhance the market.

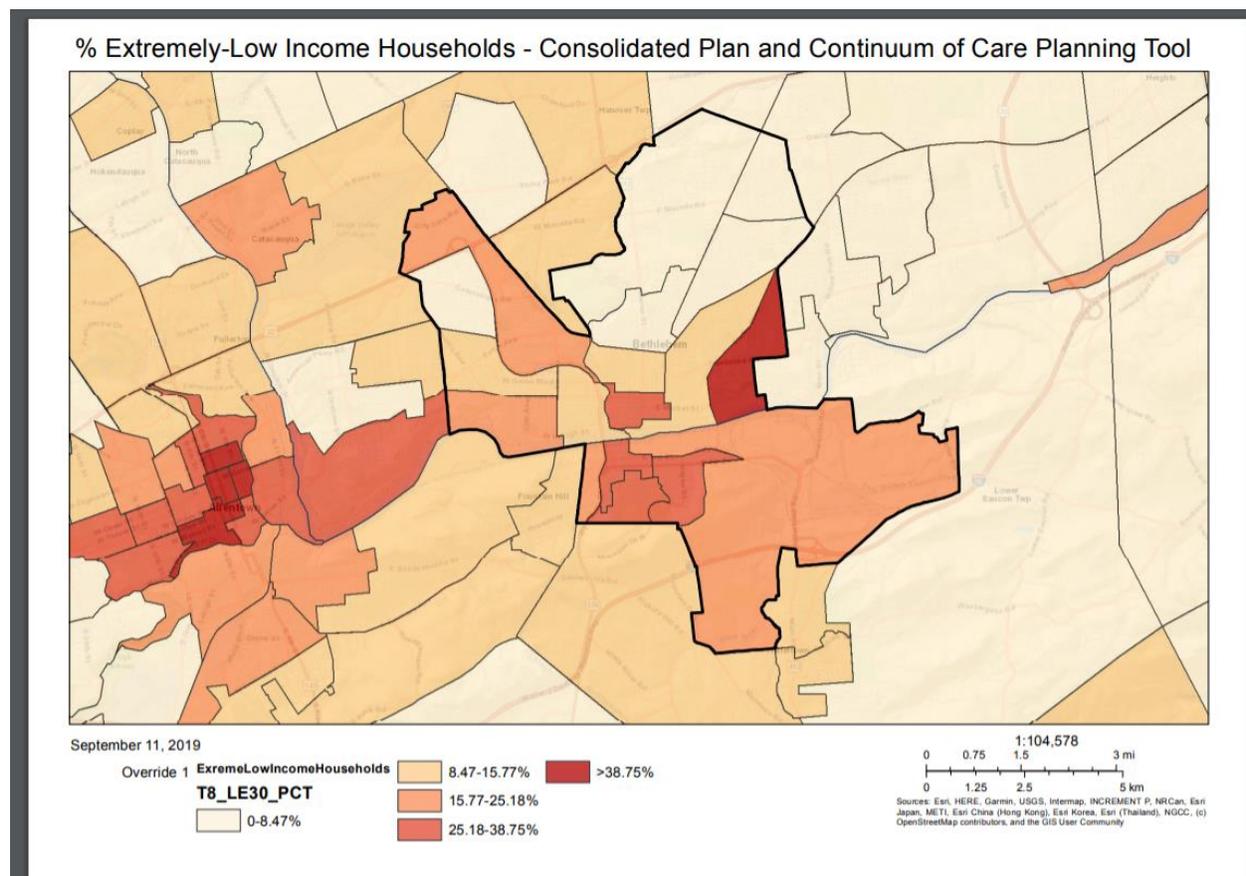
Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?

There are many community assets in these neighborhoods ranging from large retail enterprises; new hotels and hospitality venues; educational and arts facilities; large employers; government offices and

buildings including those owned by the City’s Housing Authority; medical and service institutions; historic structures; and bike trails and open spaces. The environment in these neighborhoods and the number of existing and potential stakeholders who can collaborate in the development of affordable and market rate housing is very favorable.

Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?

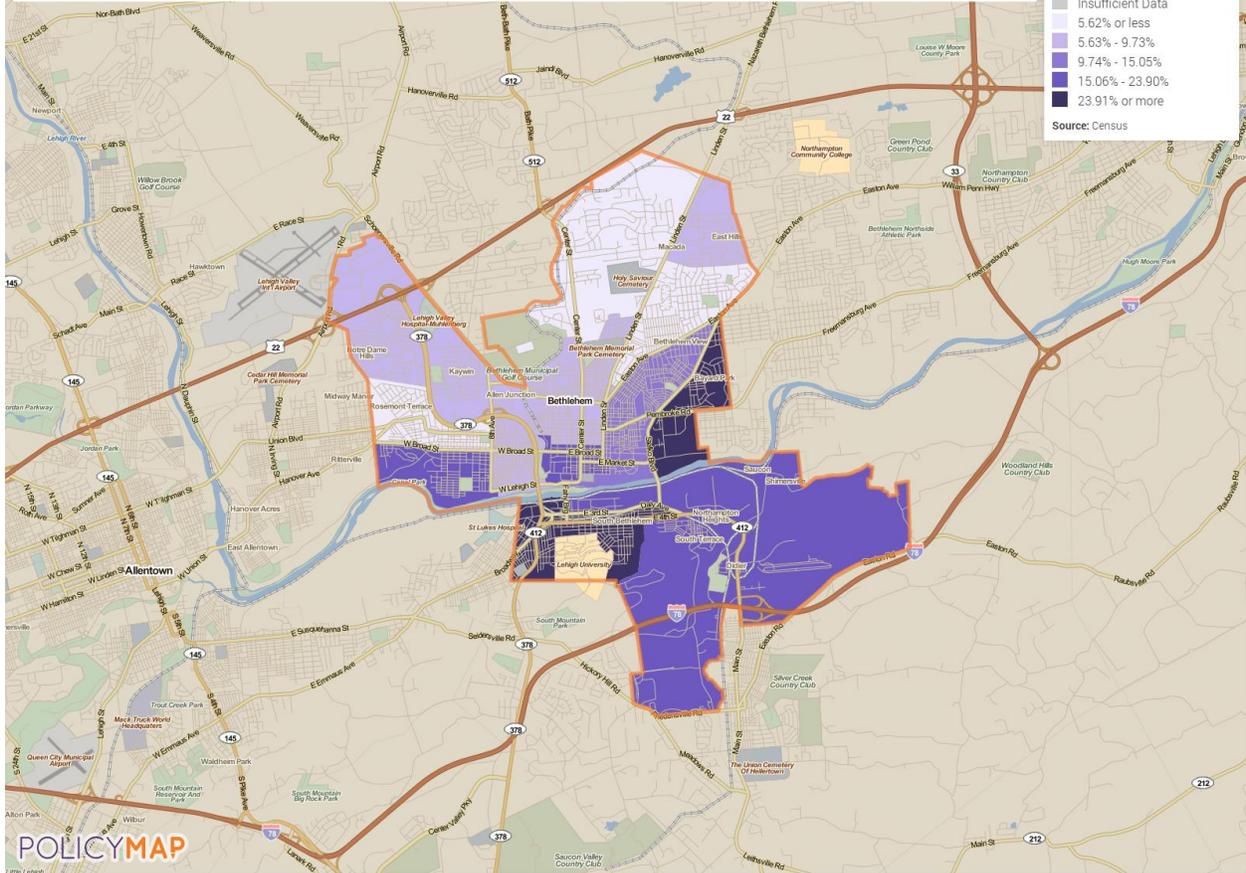
There are many strategic opportunities through the CRIZ designation which helps catalyze outside investment and other programs that can provide incentives for local developers and public institutions to target the development of affordable and market rate housing. The potential for “live where you work” housing to accommodate the growing number of casino, hospitality or educational workers is a key possibility. Mixed use development projects which include affordable and market rate housing are being planned for the City’s Southside. The upper floors of existing commercial and retail structures can be converted to provide affordable rental housing. Streetscape and other improvements that enhance neighborhood amenities are being made to encourage these trends.



Extremely Low Income Households

Estimated percent of all people that are living in poverty as of 2014-2018.

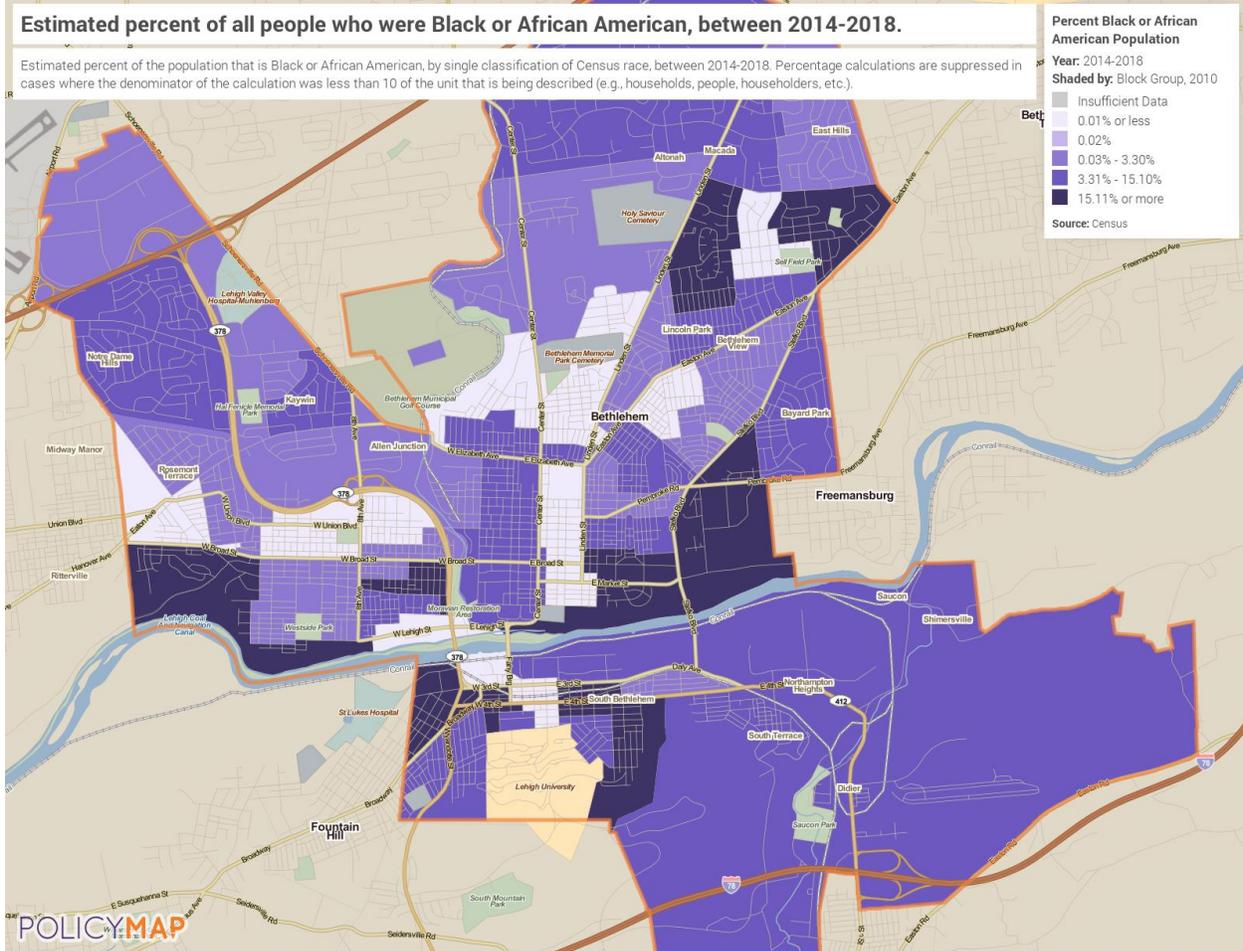
Estimated percent of all people that are living in poverty as of 2014-2018.



Estimated percent of all people that are living in poverty

Estimated percent of all people who were Black or African American, between 2014-2018.

Estimated percent of the population that is Black or African American, by single classification of Census race, between 2014-2018. Percentage calculations are suppressed in cases where the denominator of the calculation was less than 10 of the unit that is being described (e.g., households, people, householders, etc.).



Percent Black or African American Population
 Year: 2014-2018
 Shaded by: Block Group, 2010

- Insufficient Data
- 0.01% or less
- 0.02%
- 0.03% - 3.30%
- 3.31% - 15.10%
- 15.11% or more

Source: Census

Estimated percent of all people who were Black or African American

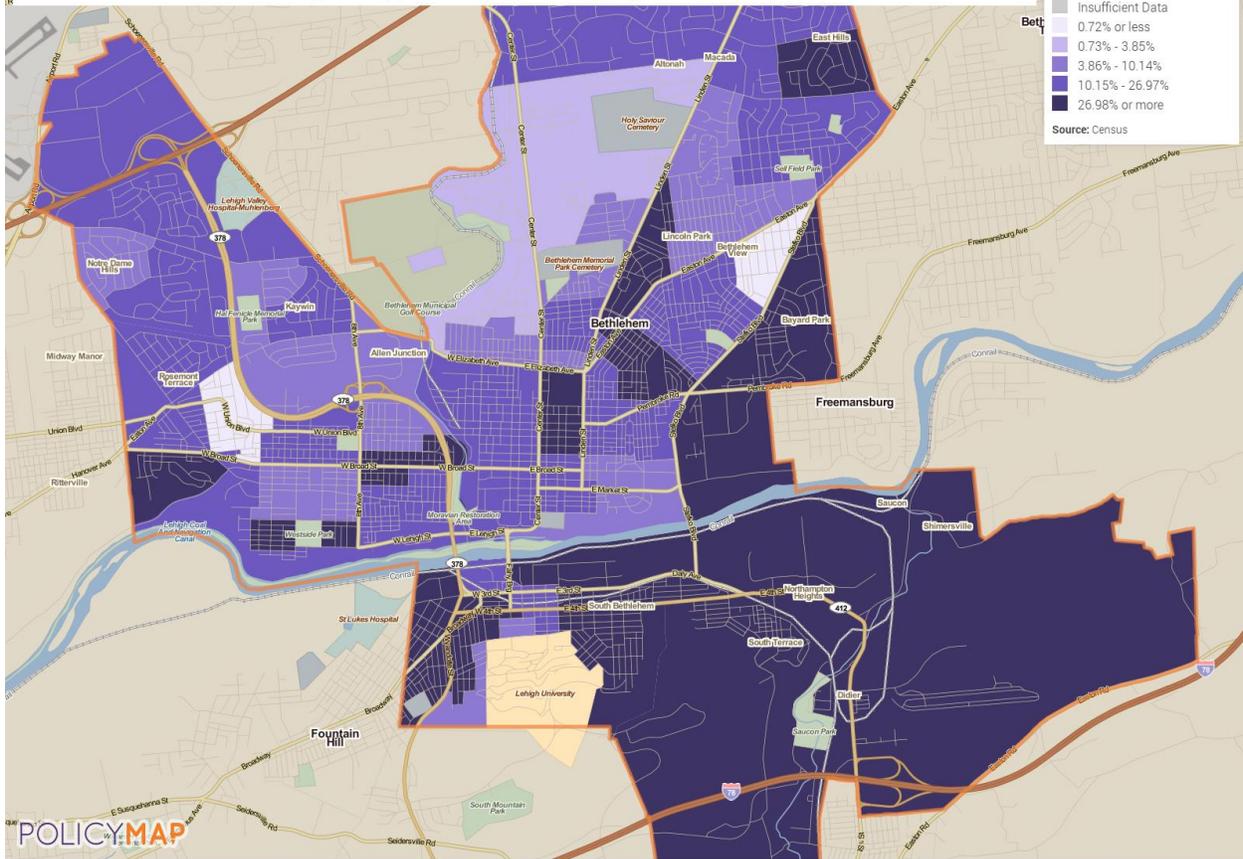
Estimated percent of all people who were Hispanic or Latino, between 2014-2018.

Estimated percent of the population that is Hispanic or Latino, between 2014-2018. Estimated percentage calculations are suppressed in cases where the denominator of the calculation was less than 10 of the unit that is being described (e.g., households, people, householders, etc.).

Percent Hispanic or Latino Population
 Year: 2014-2018
 Shaded by: Block Group, 2010

- Insufficient Data
- 0.72% or less
- 0.73% - 3.85%
- 3.86% - 10.14%
- 10.15% - 26.97%
- 26.98% or more

Source: Census



Estimated percent of all people who were Hispanic or Latino

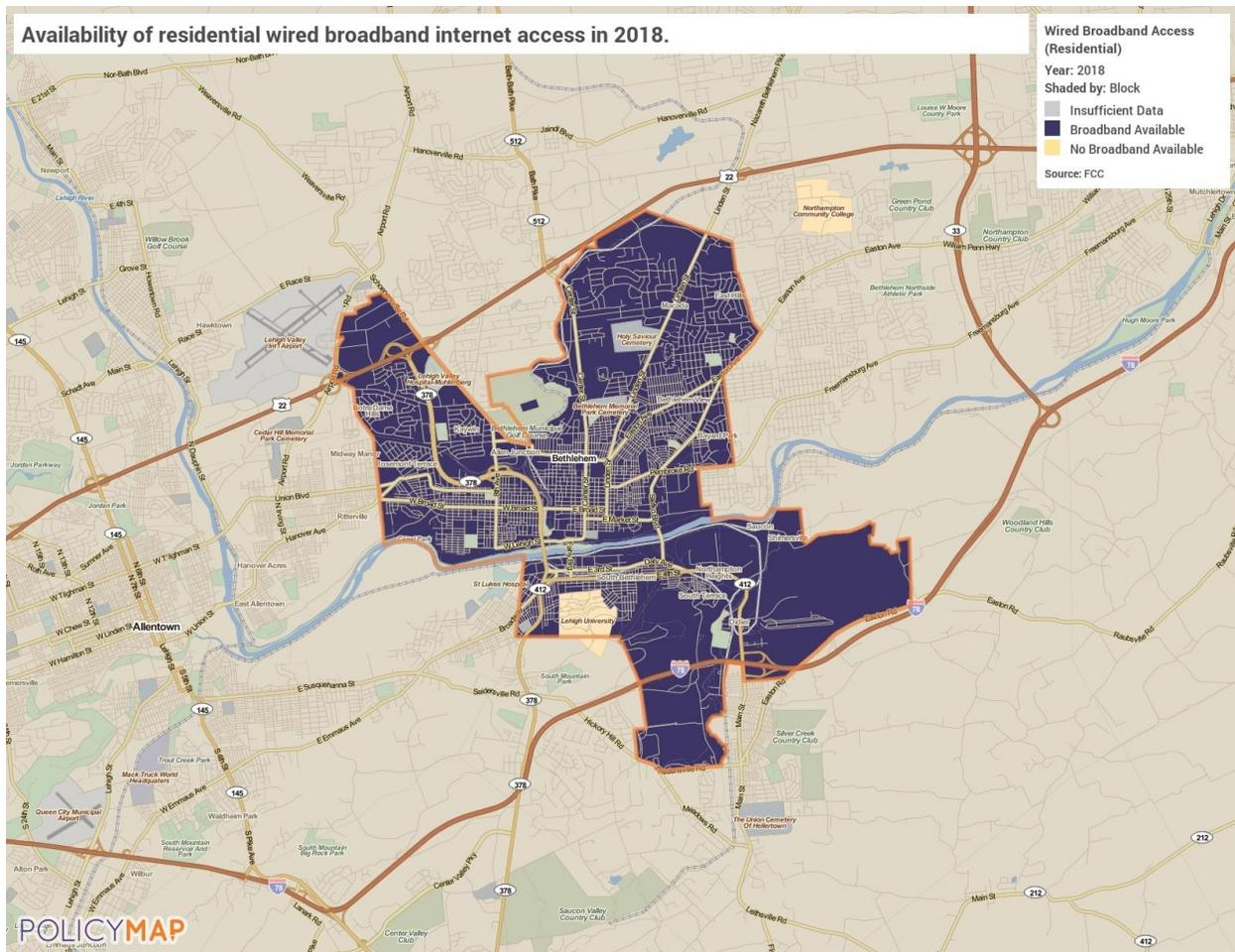
MA-60 Broadband Needs of Housing occupied by Low- and Moderate-Income Households - 91.210(a)(4), 91.310(a)(2)

Describe the need for broadband wiring and connections for households, including low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods.

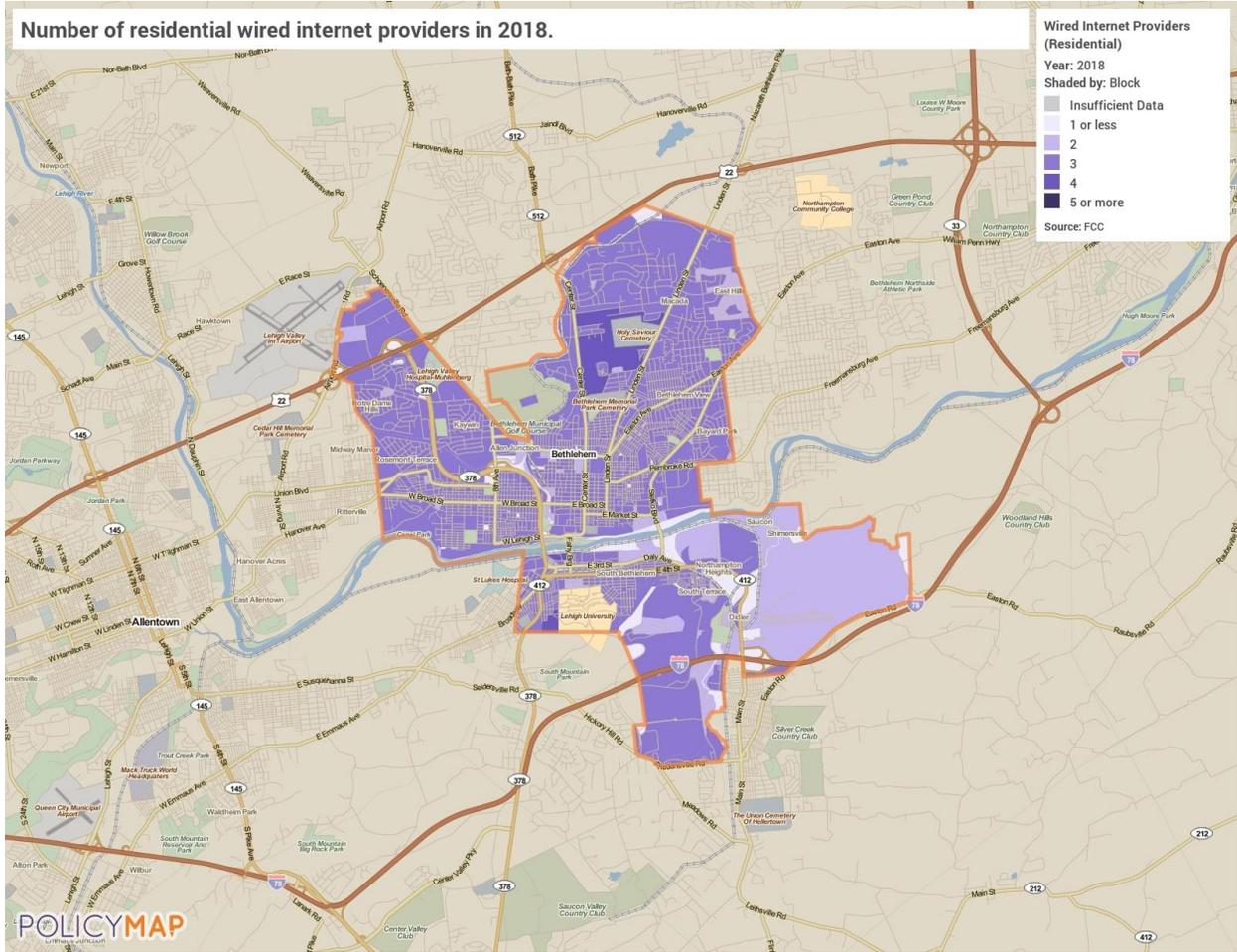
As evidenced by the maps in this section derived from data from the Federal Communications Commission, the entirety of Bethlehem is wired for broadband.

Describe the need for increased competition by having more than one broadband Internet service provider serve the jurisdiction.

As evidenced by the maps in this section derived from data from the Federal Communications Commission, the vast majority of Bethlehem has multiple broadband internet service providers.



Availability of Broadband



Broadband Providers

MA-65 Hazard Mitigation - 91.210(a)(5), 91.310(a)(3)

Describe the jurisdiction's increased natural hazard risks associated with climate change.

The City's most significant natural hazard risk associated with climate change is flooding. Specifically, the Lehigh River, Monocacy Creek, Saucon Creek all pose a natural hazard risk to nearby residents and businesses. The 2018 Lehigh Valley Hazard Mitigation Plan lists several high-priority projects to address this threat.

Describe the vulnerability to these risks of housing occupied by low- and moderate-income households based on an analysis of data, findings, and methods.

According to the National Flood Insurance Firm Maps, many of the flood hazards in the City of Bethlehem are located near concentrations of low and moderate income families.

Strategic Plan

SP-05 Overview

Strategic Plan Overview

In constructing its plan for the next five years of CDBG and HOME funding, the City of Bethlehem has considered the following:

- Successes and challenges of implementing the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan
- Community descriptions of need, both those directly provided for this plan and those gathered during the course of completing related plans, both citywide and neighborhood specific
- The capacity of the City's implementation mechanisms - both internal and through partnerships - to effectively address the issues identified within the restraint of budgets and personnel resources.

We believe that this process has resulted in a realistic strategy for the efficient, effective use of CDBG and HOME resources.

Bethlehem intends to make full use of the flexibility inherent in the CDBG program to address the myriad of needs identified throughout our community. Additionally, CDBG efforts will be coordinated with the housing support available through the HOME program.

Starting with the 2020 Annual Action Plan that is part of this Consolidated Plan and continuing with the four Action Plans to follow in subsequent years, Bethlehem will identify specific goals to be met each year and the specific activities that will be supported to achieve those goals.

The overall needs, identified through extensive community input for this and other related plans, that will be addressed over the next five years are:

- Improve existing housing stock, both rental and owner-occupied
- Increase home ownership opportunities
- Improve public spaces, including parks, streets and other infrastructure
- Enhance public safety through services and environmental improvements such as lighting
- Support economic development, including infrastructure improvements to commercial areas serving nearby residential neighborhoods and through support for commercial facade improvements
- Support neighborhood stabilization efforts and blight elimination initiatives through increased code enforcement and property clearance or rehab programs
- Support a wide range of eligible public services and facilities, including affordable child care, before- and after-school programming, job readiness services, mental health services, child

nutrition services, financial literacy programs (including foreclosure prevention) and food pantries and homeless shelters.

SP-10 Geographic Priorities – 91.215 (a)(1)

Geographic Area

Table 47 - Geographic Priority Areas

1	Area Name:	City of Bethlehem
	Area Type:	
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	Other
	Other Revital Description:	ADA Improvements in the City
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	
	How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	
	Identify the needs in this target area.	
	What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	
Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?		
2	Area Name:	Northside 2027
	Area Type:	Strategy area
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	6/5/2020
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	
	Other Revital Description:	
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	The boundaries for the target area can be found on page 13 of the Northside 2027 Plan.

Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	The housing and commercial characteristics can be found on page 28 of the Northside 2027 Plan.
How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	Appendx A and page 34 of the Northside 2027 Plan discuss a robust consultation and citizen participation process.
Identify the needs in this target area.	A complete discussion on the needs of the target area can be found on pages 24 thru 32 of the Northside 2027 Plan.
What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	Opportunities are discussed on page 32 of the Northside 2027 Plan.
Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	Constraints are discussed on page 32 of the Northside 2027 Plan.

General Allocation Priorities

Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the jurisdiction (or within the EMSA for HOPWA)

Some of the needs the Consolidated Plan seeks to address exist citywide. Housing rehab, assistance to seniors and services for special needs populations are not limited by geographic boundaries.

Over the next five years, CDBG and HOME resources will be allocated geographically as:

- Citywide - for housing rehab and other activities noted above that address needs existant throughout the City
- Northside 2027 Neighborhood - pending HUD approval, Bethlehem is seeking to establish this viable but threatened primarily residential area as a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA). Such designation would allow the full range of HUD-funded benefits to be focused here.
- Other low-mod areas - largely, but not exclusively, on the City's southside. While focusing on the Northside, the City will remain cognizant of the fact that work remains on the southside as well and will seek to leverage CDBG and HOME resources here with other federal, state and local support.

NORTHSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ANCHORS & ASSETS



Figure 2. The Northside neighborhood is full of strong and easily accessible assets, including K-12 public schools, Moravian College, and a number of open space and recreational assets. It is also directly adjacent to the city's historic downtown.

Northside 2027 Target Area

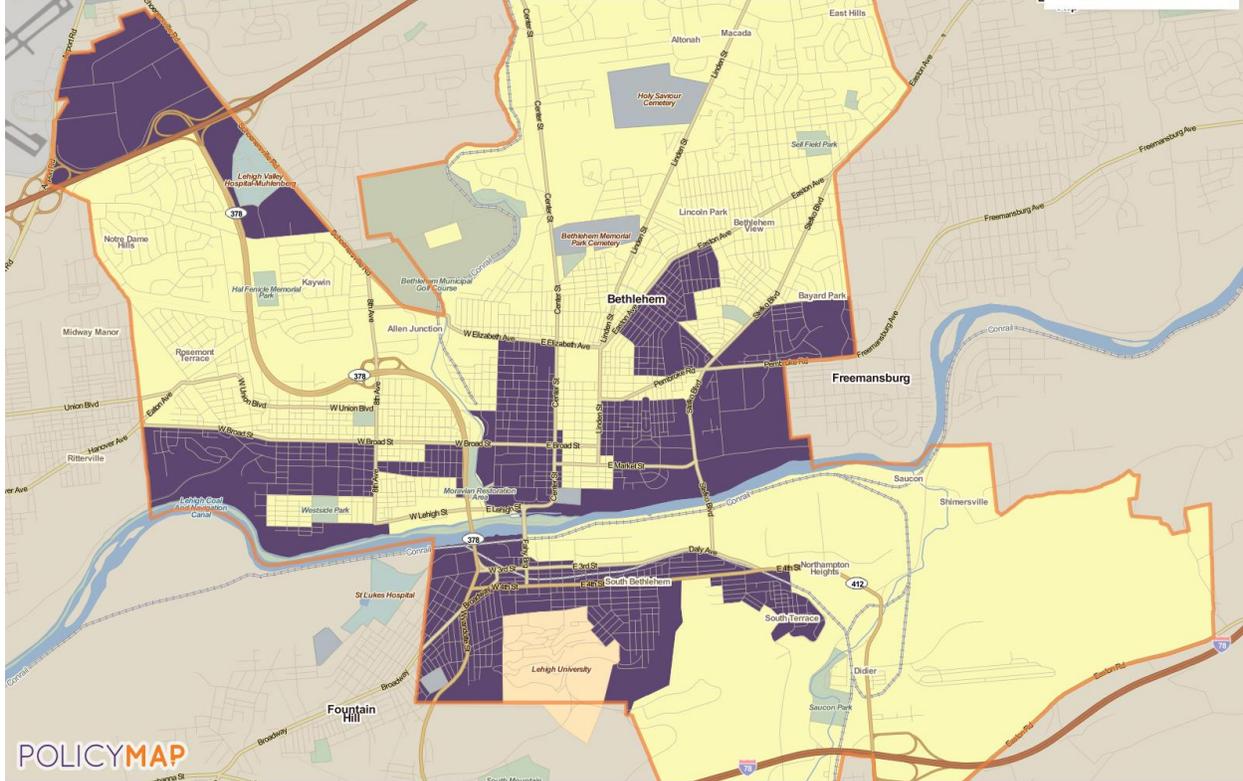
CDBG eligibility status as of FY2019.

The dark purple areas on the map are block groups that HUD designates as eligible for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding in FY2019. Eligible block groups are those where at least 51% of residents are of low or moderate income. Low/mod persons are those living in households with income below 80% of the Area Median Income. Additional block groups are eligible if they are inside the boundary of an "exception grantee" and meet a separate threshold of low/mod persons. Light purple block groups are partially eligible, meaning one or more parts of the block group is not eligible. Block groups marked in yellow on the map are ineligible for CDBG funding. Income estimates come from 2011-2015 ACS data. Calculations were suppressed in cases where the number of individuals in the area was less than 11. Areas with insufficient data appear as grey in the map. For more information about the CDBG Program, please see our Data Directory.

CDBG Eligible Blockgroups
 Year: 2019
 Shaded by: Block Group, 2010

- Insufficient Data
- Not Eligible
- Eligible
- Partially Eligible

Source: HUD



Low to Moderate Income Block Groups

SP-25 Priority Needs - 91.215(a)(2)

Priority Needs

Table 48 – Priority Needs Summary

1	Priority Need Name	Improve the quality of existing housing
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Elderly Persons with Physical Disabilities
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Create and Preserve Affordable Rental Housing Preserve Owner-Occupied Housing Address Impediments to Fair Housing Choice Support Homeowners And Renters (NS)
	Description	This priority need focuses on existing homes in the City owned or rented by low and moderate income households. Improvements may correct code violations, improve energy efficiency or remove architectural barriers for residents with mobility impairments.
	Basis for Relative Priority	An extensive waiting list for housing rehabilitation assistance is the basis for this need.
2	Priority Need Name	Increase the rate of homeownership
	Priority Level	High

	Population	Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Chronic Homelessness
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Enhance Homeownership Opportunities Address Impediments to Fair Housing Choice
	Description	This priority need strives to help City renters become City homeowners through development of new ownership housing for income-eligible families and the provision of homebuyer assistance.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Public input regarding the desirability of encouraging and facilitating homeownership as a means of helping families and stabilizing neighborhoods.
3	Priority Need Name	Provide quality infrastructure and comm facilities
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Improve Public Facilities & Infrastructure Safety and Mobility For All Modes Of Trans (NS) Enhance Beautify Public Realm (NS) Physical Improvements To Broad Street Corr (NS) Implement Physical Imps To Linden St Corr (NS)

	Description	Provide residents with high quality, modern infrastructure and community facilities. The scope of this priority includes water and wastewater systems, roads, sidewalks and parks owned by the City. The priority also includes improvements to buildings and facilities owned by local nonprofits that provide services to low and moderate income residents.
	Basis for Relative Priority	City experience shows that public improvements support service delivery, raise the quality of life and stabilize neighborhoods. Public input showed a desire to continue such efforts.
4	Priority Need Name	Enhance public safety
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Elderly Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Improve Public Facilities & Infrastructure Enhance Quality of Life For All Residents (NS)
	Description	This priority need represents a need to improve public safety systems, including crime reduction measures, removal of architectural barriers from public spaces, and improving traffic and pedestrian systems.
	Basis for Relative Priority	City experience shows that increased police patrols, support for community watch groups, information on crime prevention and lighting and other physical improvements reduce crime. Community input pointed to a need to increase both real and perceived safety in target neighborhoods. This priority also represents the
5	Priority Need Name	Support the Growth of the Local Economy
	Priority Level	High

	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Public Housing Residents Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	Create and Preserve Local Jobs Support Existing Businesses And Attract New (NS) Enhance Quality of Life For All Residents (NS)
	Description	This priority reflects the need for a strong, resilient local economy. Projects may include efforts in operating assistance, job creation, property repurposing, job training and other workforce development, and including infrastructure improvements to commercial areas serving nearby residential neighborhoods and through support for commercial facade improvements.
	Basis for Relative Priority	In prior Strategic Plans, this priority was described as a low need. However, the need to support local business has been dramatically increased with the COVID-19 pandemic.
6	Priority Need Name	Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	

	Associated Goals	Preserve Owner-Occupied Housing Address Impediments to Fair Housing Choice Support Homeless Housing and Services Enhance Beautify Public Realm (NS) Enhance Quality of Life For All Residents (NS) Expand Availability of Services (NS)
	Description	This priority need reflects the importance of having strong, safe communities. Projects may include enhanced enforcement of property maintenance codes, clearance of vacant properties, and demolition of unsafe structures.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Past efforts to enhance enforcement of property maintenance codes have been deemed very effective in improving neighborhood conditions and safety. However, the need remains high to address new issues and support the gains that have already been made in the City.
7	Priority Need Name	Enhance the Availability of Community Services
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	

	Associated Goals	Support Homeless Housing and Services Support High Quality Public Services Enhance Quality of Life For All Residents (NS) Expand Availability of Services (NS)
	Description	This priority need support a wide range of eligible public services, including affordable child care, before- and after-school programming, job readiness services, mental health services, child nutrition services, financial literacy programs (including foreclosure prevention) and food pantries and homeless shelters.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Through experience supporting public service programs and through dialogue with community residents and service providers, the need for a wide variety of services is clear.
8	Priority Need Name	Planning and Administration
	Priority Level	High

	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Mental Disabilities Persons with Physical Disabilities Persons with Developmental Disabilities Persons with Alcohol or Other Addictions Persons with HIV/AIDS and their Families Victims of Domestic Violence Non-housing Community Development
	Geographic Areas Affected	
	Associated Goals	CDBG/HOME Program Administration
	Description	Efficient and compliant planning and administration of the CDBG and HOME programs.
	Basis for Relative Priority	Program planning and administration is necessary to address all other needs.
9	Priority Need Name	Housing (NS)
	Priority Level	High

	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents
	Geographic Areas Affected	Northside 2027
	Associated Goals	Create and Preserve Affordable Rental Housing Preserve Owner-Occupied Housing Enhance Homeownership Opportunities Address Impediments to Fair Housing Choice Support Homeowners And Renters (NS) Enhance Quality of Life For All Residents (NS) Expand Availability of Services (NS) Build Community Cohesion (NS)
	Description	<p>The major concerns of Northside residents include the decline in housing stock quality, preservation of affordability, and the conversion of single-family homes into multi-family apartments managed by absentee landlords. Residents have expressed a desire to build a culture of neighborliness and support in helping each other maintain and improve homes.</p> <p>Because there are relatively low levels of vacant land, abandoned buildings, or seriously blighted houses, the overarching goal of this plan's housing strategies is to preserve and improve the quality of existing housing stock.</p> <p>More information on this Priority Need can be found on Page 28 of the Northside 2027 Plan.</p>
	Basis for Relative Priority	
10	Priority Need Name	Local Economy (NS)
	Priority Level	High

	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents
	Geographic Areas Affected	Northside 2027
	Associated Goals	Create and Preserve Local Jobs Support Existing Businesses And Attract New (NS) Enhance Quality of Life For All Residents (NS) Expand Availability of Services (NS) Build Community Cohesion (NS)
	Description	Economic activity within in the neighborhood is generally limited to the two major commercial corridors—Broad and Linden Streets—and to a lesser extent on Union Boulevard. The neighborhood is conveniently located to nearby job centers, including local colleges and universities and business parks in surrounding suburban areas. More information on this Priority Need can be found of Page 29 of the Northside 2027 Plan.
	Basis for Relative Priority	
11	Priority Need Name	Transportation & Streetscape (NS)
	Priority Level	High
	Population	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly

Geographic Areas Affected	Northside 2027
Associated Goals	Safety and Mobility For All Modes Of Trans (NS) Enhance Beautify Public Realm (NS) Physical Improvements To Broad Street Corr (NS) Implement Physical Imps To Linden St Corr (NS) Enhance Quality of Life For All Residents (NS) Expand Availability of Services (NS)
Description	Although the Northside is a walkable neighborhood with short, regular blocks and numerous assets within a short distance, several factors contribute to a lack of pedestrian safety. More information on this Priority Need can be found on page 30 of the Northside 2027 Plan.
Basis for Relative Priority	

Narrative (Optional)

Bethlehem intends to make full use of the flexibility inherent in the CDBG program to address the myriad of needs identified throughout the community. Additionally, CDBG efforts will be coordinated with the housing support available through the HOME program. Starting with the 2020 Annual Action Plan that is part of this Consolidated Plan and continuing with the four Action Plans to follow in subsequent years, Bethlehem will identify specific goals to be met each year and the specific activities that will be supported to achieve those goals.

The overall needs, identified through extensive community input for this and other related plans, that will be addressed over the next five years are:

- Improve existing housing stock, both rental and owner-occupied;
- Increase home ownership opportunities;
- Improve public spaces, including parks, streets and other infrastructure;
- Enhance public safety through services and environmental improvements;
- Support economic development, including infrastructure improvements to commercial areas serving nearby residential neighborhoods and through support for commercial facade improvements;
- Support neighborhood stabilization efforts and blight elimination initiatives through increased code enforcement and property clearance or rehab programs; and

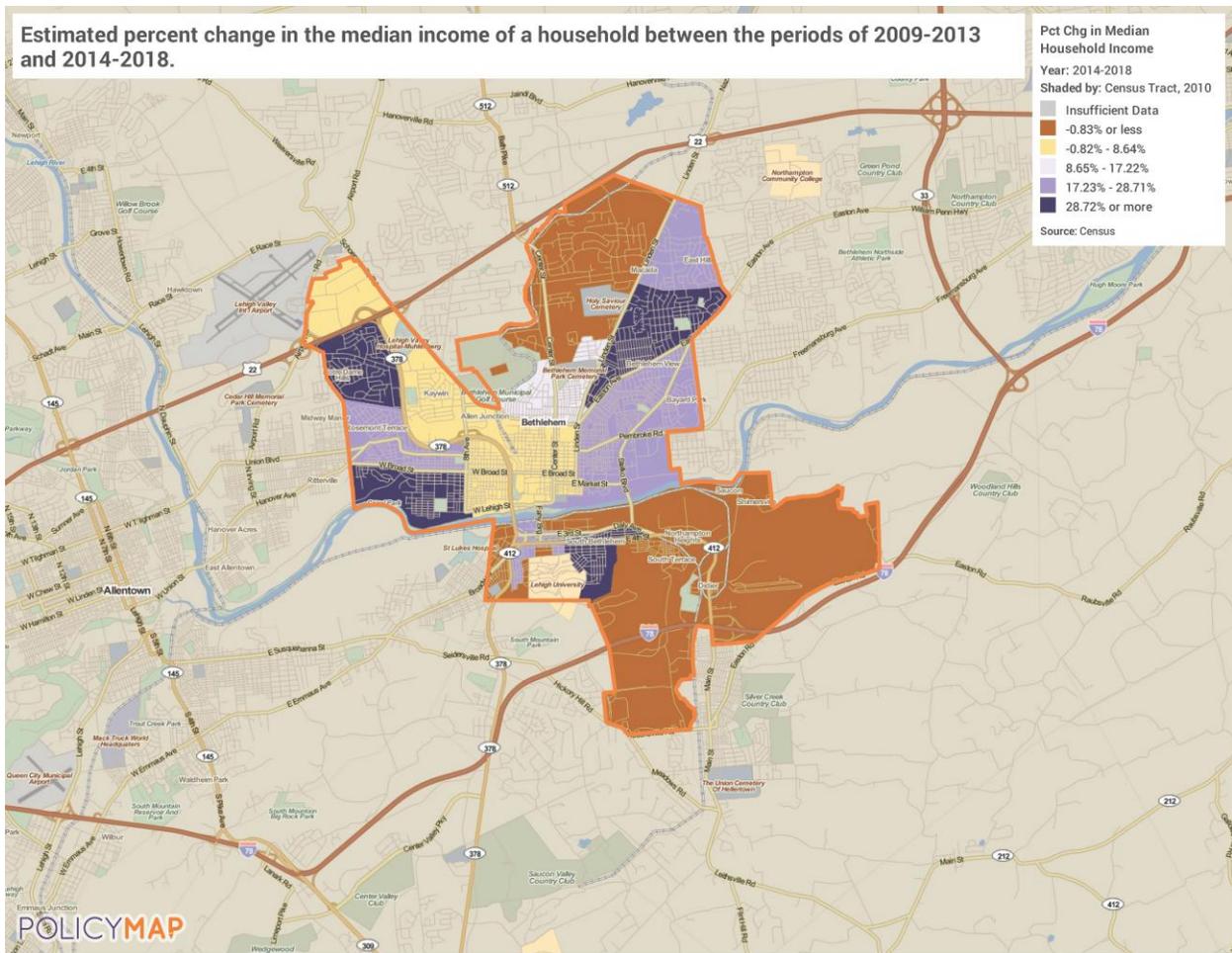
- Support a wide range of eligible public services and facilities, including affordable child care, before- and after-school programming, job readiness services, mental health services, child nutrition services, financial literacy programs (including foreclosure prevention) and food pantries and homeless shelters.

SP-30 Influence of Market Conditions – 91.215 (b)

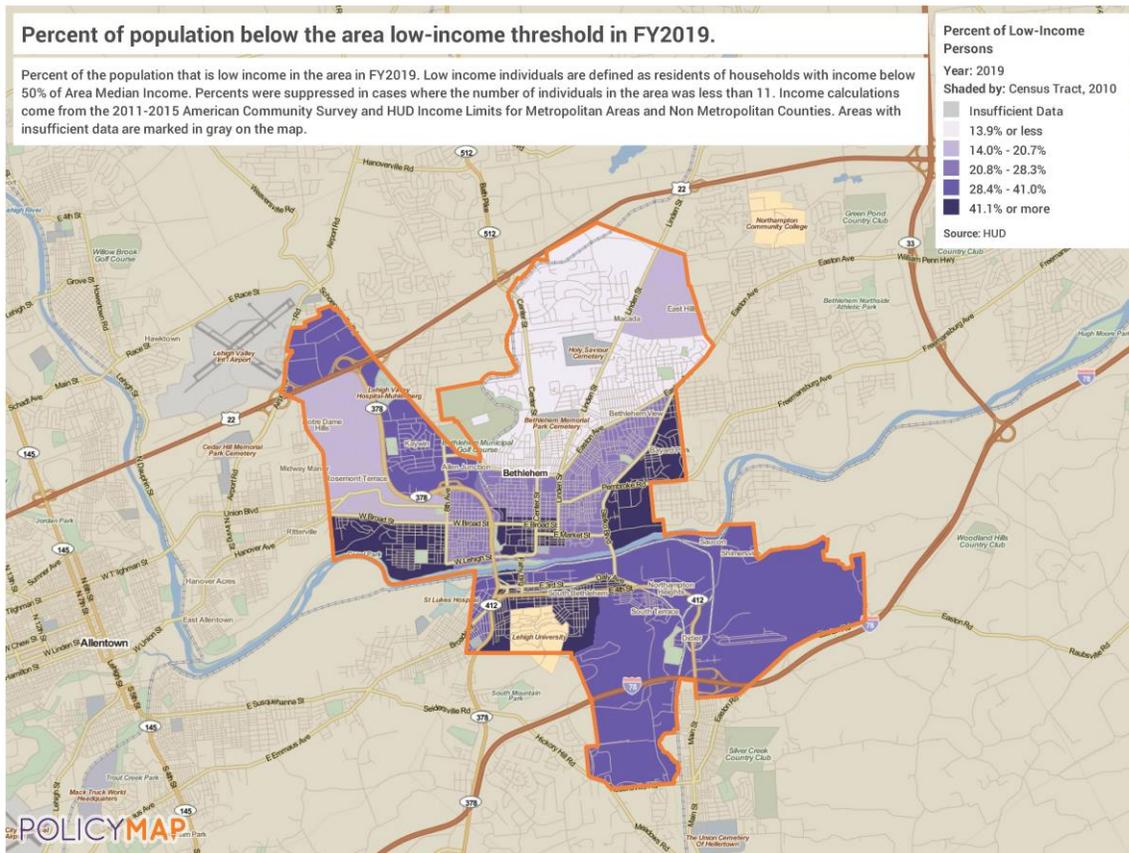
Influence of Market Conditions

Affordable Housing Type	Market Characteristics that will influence the use of funds available for housing type
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	There are no plans to start a Tenant Based Rental Assistance program at this time.
TBRA for Non-Homeless Special Needs	There are no plans to start a Tenant Based Rental Assistance program at this time.
New Unit Production	Housing costs, mortgage rates, capacity of CHDOs and other developers, availability of vacant land, demand for homebuyer and rental units.
Rehabilitation	Program waiting list, rehab costs, contractor availability and performance.
Acquisition, including preservation	Acquiring existing units and rehabbing them for sale to eligible homebuyers is a viable option to new construction and will be influenced by the same factors as new construction.

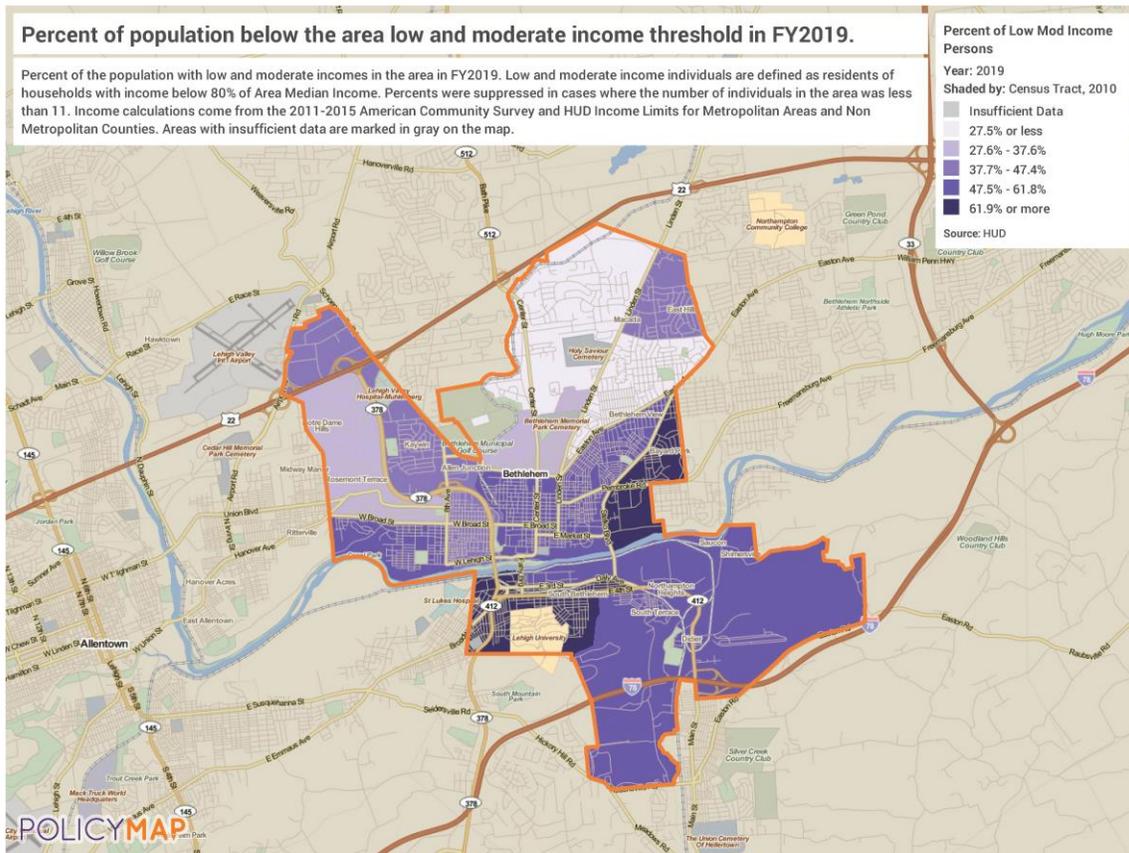
Table 49 – Influence of Market Conditions



Estimated % change in the median income of a household btw 2009-2013 and 2014-2018



Percent of population below the area low-income threshold in FY2019



Percent of population below the area low and moderate income threshold in FY2019

SP-35 Anticipated Resources - 91.215(a)(4), 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

In addition to the entitlement grant amounts announced by HUD, the City of Bethlehem brings a wide variety of resources and effort to bear on addressing the community's needs. All potential funding sources - state, federal and private - are investigated and pursued as appropriate. The City has several million dollars in applications pending to further redevelop some of the same low-moderate income areas being aided with CDBG funds as well as the adjoining commercial areas that must play a significant role in ongoing efforts to improve the quality of life for all of our residents.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	1,354,385	0	0	1,354,385	5,400,000	Estimated at 4 times estimated Year 1 allocation

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	398,607	0	0	398,607	1,600,000	Estimated at 4 times estimated Year 1 allocation

Table 50 - Anticipated Resources

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

The City provides only a portion of the cost of activities: affordable housing, public facilities/infrastructure or public services. CDBG funds for public services activities is matched with numerous state funding sources and local donations. Most public facilities /infrastructure projects are primarily funded through state grants and City Bonds with CDBG being local match or providing for a funding gap.

With respect to affordable housing, HOME funds require a 25% match from other sources, but with the shrinking HOME budget, the other funding sources generally exceed the City investment and thus the match requirement.

If appropriate, describe publically owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan

City parks and streets being improved are the only publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that is currently anticipated to be used to address the needs identified in the plan.

Discussion

While available resources are insufficient to meet all needs, careful monitoring, diligent leveraging and ongoing coordination helps the City of Bethlehem assure that its residents receive the most benefit from the CDBG and HOME funding received.

SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure – 91.215(k)

Explain the institutional structure through which the jurisdiction will carry out its consolidated plan including private industry, non-profit organizations, and public institutions.

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
BETHLEHEM		Economic Development Non-homeless special needs Planning neighborhood improvements public facilities public services	Jurisdiction
Bethlehem Housing Authority		Homelessness Public Housing Rental	
BETHLEHEM REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY		Economic Development Planning	
Northampton County Dept of Human Services		Homelessness Non-homeless special needs public services	
Lehigh County Dept of Human Services		Homelessness Non-homeless special needs public services	

Table 51 - Institutional Delivery Structure

Assess of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

The City of Bethlehem will implement the Consolidated Plan through the combined efforts of the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), participating City Departments, the Division of Economic Development, the Bureau of Planning, the Bureau of Code Enforcement, the Bethlehem Redevelopment Authority (BRA), the Bethlehem Housing Authority and non-profit, and for-profit organizations.

Bethlehem is the clearinghouse and facilitator for the activities described in its 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. As the local unit of government, the City is empowered to apply for and administer CDBG funds, HOME funds, and other grants. Bethlehem will also support other activities through providing

certifications of consistency with the Consolidated Plan. The following provides the City's institutional structure for administration of its entitlement program. The City does not foresee any changes to this structure in the coming program year.

The Director of the DCED oversees the administration of all CDBG and HOME entitlement programs. The Department also applies for and administers other funding sources, ensuring all resources are highly integrated and administered efficiently. The Department is responsible for:

- Program management and oversight
- Inter Department/Agency Coordination
- Sub-recipient contract administration and monitoring
- Program evaluation
- Report preparation and submission
- Public education and participation
- Special project development
- Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan preparation, monitoring, and evaluation
- Housing programs
- Economic development programs and initiatives

The daily oversight of activities for all programs and initiatives comes under the management of the Housing and Community Development Planner. In addition to community development and housing support, City staff provides assistance to sub-recipients of grants and loans. The sub-recipient grants and loans include, but are not limited to, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership Program funds, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development funds, and Pennsylvania Housing Finance Authority (PHFA) loans, among others.

The major gap continues to be that resources and staff are below levels needed to optimally operate programs. Coordination through the below listed organizations ensures that overlap of missions is minimized, and facilitates more efficient use of resources. Opportunities for networking in support of improving services, efficiency, and to eliminate gaps are provided through the coordination efforts described in other sections of the Consolidated Plan.

Additionally, the examination of the gaps in the service delivery system is an ongoing effort by the Lehigh and Northampton County Departments of Human Services and the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board (LV RHAB), the three Housing Authorities operating within the Lehigh Valley and the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Advisory Committee. The Housing Authority and the LV RHAB Continuum of Care prepare multi-year plans that identify the needs, goals and objectives for the particular planning period. These agencies will continue to evaluate the needed services and determine whether it is appropriate to seek CDBG or HOME funding from the City of Bethlehem and the Counties of Lehigh and Northampton to meet some of these needs. Though these entities work well together, there are opportunities for improved coordination and communication. All agencies involved in these efforts continue to seek new ways to better serve their target populations and the general public.

Availability of services targeted to homeless persons and persons with HIV and mainstream services

Homelessness Prevention Services	Available in the Community	Targeted to Homeless	Targeted to People with HIV
Homelessness Prevention Services			
Counseling/Advocacy	X	X	
Legal Assistance	X	X	
Mortgage Assistance	X	X	
Rental Assistance			
Utilities Assistance			
Street Outreach Services			
Law Enforcement			
Mobile Clinics			
Other Street Outreach Services			
Supportive Services			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X	X	
Child Care	X	X	
Education	X	X	
Employment and Employment Training	X	X	
Healthcare	X	X	
HIV/AIDS	X	X	
Life Skills	X	X	
Mental Health Counseling	X	X	
Transportation	X	X	
Other			

Table 52 - Homeless Prevention Services Summary

Describe how the service delivery system including, but not limited to, the services listed above meet the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth)

Public Agencies - Four public agencies provide a major portion of the housing assistance in the City: the Bethlehem Housing Authority; the Lehigh and Northampton County Departments of Human Services and the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board Continuum of Care. The Housing Authority provides tenant subsidies, with Section 8 funding often works with the County Departments of Human Services in receiving and placing applicants. In addition, the BHA provides public housing, principally for extremely low income elderly, disabled and family households. No Housing Authority services are being funded by the City.

The Lehigh and Northampton County Departments of Human Services coordinate much of the emergency assistance in the City and financial assistance to people at risk of becoming homeless, including the Northampton County Assistance Office's Emergency Shelter Allowance and LIHEAP. The Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board CoC coordinates emergency shelter and supportive housing services. DHS often contracts with non-profit agencies to provide additional services and case management. Through its involvement with these private non-profit agencies, the Departments of Human Services have been able to place the homeless and those with special needs, in emergency housing. They have also coordinated with other service providers for job training and education, and with permanent housing providers, to reduce recidivism and promote self-sufficiency.

Non-Profit Organizations - Non-profit agencies have been crucial to the provision of emergency shelter and supportive housing services in the City. Agencies such as the Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley, New Bethany Ministries, Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley, Victory House, Catholic Charities, YMCA, Valley Youth House, Bethlehem Emergency Shelter and Trinity Lutheran Church are presently providing Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing. Homeless prevention services in the areas of Mortgage Assistance, Rental Assistance, Utilities Assistance, Counseling/Advocacy and Legal Assistance are being provided Community Action Committee of Lehigh Valley, and Neighborhood Housing Services of the Lehigh Valley.

Numerous community organizations and CHDOs contribute expertise in the management of programs and activities, including Alliance for Building Communities, New Bethany Ministries, Moravian House, Housing Opportunity Movement, Inc., Habitat for Humanity.

A variety of Supportive Services are provided by the following agencies in the areas of Case Management, Life Skills, Alcohol & Drug Abuse, Mental Health Counseling, Healthcare, HIV/AIDS, Education, Employment, Child Care and Transportation, AIDSNET, ARC of Lehigh & Northampton Counties, Bethlehem Area Vocational-Technical School, Career Link (WIB), Community Action Committee of Lehigh Valley, Council of Spanish Speaking Organizations of Lehigh Valley, Head Start of the Lehigh Valley, LANTA METRO, LANTA METRO PLUS, New Bethany Ministries, Northampton Co. Mental Health, Mental Retardation, Drug & Alcohol, Lehigh County Department of Human Services, Step By Step, Inc., Turning Point of Lehigh Valley, VIA, Work/Life Center (Northampton Community College).

Describe the strengths and gaps of the service delivery system for special needs population and persons experiencing homelessness, including, but not limited to, the services listed above

The delivery of housing and community development services in the City of Bethlehem today is a concerted effort between various public, non-profit and other private agencies. Emergency housing and service providers meet regularly through the Allentown/ Northeast Pennsylvania Continuum of Care. Through these meetings, services for the homeless, special needs populations and others with emergency needs are coordinated. Most of the facility and service providers in the City, both public and

private, are members of the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board (LV RHAB), providing a network for service delivery.

Provide a summary of the strategy for overcoming gaps in the institutional structure and service delivery system for carrying out a strategy to address priority needs

As a result of the Consolidated Planning Process, both service provider agencies and local officials have expressed the desire to meet periodically to address issues related to affordable housing and community development. These meetings will be pursued to encourage participation in the coordinated service delivery system and to increase the exchange of information.

Private developers and investors will be encouraged to continue to participate and provide solutions to addressing affordable housing and community development issues and problems.

The above cooperative efforts will be continued and expanded to ensure the efficient and comprehensive delivery of services and assistance to those most in need. The City anticipates that it will be able to continue the momentum it developed during the Consolidated Planning Process, so that housing and community development needs can be better addressed.

Continued cooperation with private banking and industry will be sought to foster public/private partnerships for the provision of homeowner assistance programs, affordable housing development, and economic development. The use of CDBG and HOME program funds will be essential in leveraging private resources and promoting private investment.

SP-45 Goals Summary – 91.215(a)(4)

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Create and Preserve Affordable Rental Housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	City of Bethlehem	Improve the quality of existing housing Housing (NS)	HOME: \$500,000	Rental units constructed: 5 Household Housing Unit Rental units rehabilitated: 100 Household Housing Unit
2	Preserve Owner-Occupied Housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	City of Bethlehem	Improve the quality of existing housing Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods Housing (NS)	CDBG: \$1,800,000 HOME: \$850,000	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 105 Household Housing Unit
3	Enhance Homeownership Opportunities	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	City of Bethlehem	Increase the rate of homeownership Housing (NS)	HOME: \$250,000	Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 25 Households Assisted
4	Address Impediments to Fair Housing Choice	2020	2024	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless	City of Bethlehem	Improve the quality of existing housing Increase the rate of homeownership Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods Housing (NS)	CDBG: \$100,000 HOME: \$0	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 500 Households Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 25 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	Support Homeless Housing and Services	2020	2024	Homeless	City of Bethlehem	Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods Enhance the Availability of Community Services		Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 25 Households Assisted Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 25 Persons Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 50 Persons Assisted
6	Support High Quality Public Services	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	City of Bethlehem	Enhance the Availability of Community Services	CDBG: \$1,000,000 HOME: \$0	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 550 Persons Assisted Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 50 Households Assisted
7	Improve Public Facilities & Infrastructure	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	City of Bethlehem	Provide quality infrastructure and comm facilities Enhance public safety	CDBG: \$3,500,000 HOME: \$0	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 9850 Persons Assisted
8	Create and Preserve Local Jobs	2021	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	City of Bethlehem	Support the Growth of the Local Economy Local Economy (NS)	CDBG: \$100,000 HOME: \$0	Businesses assisted: 15 Businesses Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
9	CDBG/HOME Program Administration	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	City of Bethlehem	Planning and Administration	CDBG: \$1,354,000 HOME: \$200,000	Other: 1 Other
10	Safety and Mobility For All Modes Of Trans (NS)	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Northside 2027	Provide quality infrastructure and comm facilities Transportation & Streetscape (NS)		
11	Enhance Beautify Public Realm (NS)	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Northside 2027	Provide quality infrastructure and comm facilities Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods Transportation & Streetscape (NS)		
12	Physical Improvements To Broad Street Corr (NS)	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Northside 2027	Provide quality infrastructure and comm facilities Transportation & Streetscape (NS)		
13	Implement Physical Imps To Linden St Corr (NS)	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Northside 2027	Provide quality infrastructure and comm facilities Transportation & Streetscape (NS)		

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
14	Support Existing Businesses And Attract New (NS)	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Northside 2027	Support the Growth of the Local Economy Local Economy (NS)		
15	Support Homeowners And Renters (NS)	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	Northside 2027	Improve the quality of existing housing Housing (NS)		
16	Enhance Quality of Life For All Residents (NS)	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Northside 2027	Enhance public safety Support the Growth of the Local Economy Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods Enhance the Availability of Community Services Housing (NS) Local Economy (NS) Transportation & Streetscape (NS)		
17	Expand Availability of Services (NS)	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Northside 2027	Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods Enhance the Availability of Community Services Housing (NS) Local Economy (NS) Transportation & Streetscape (NS)		

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
18	Build Community Cohesion (NS)	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	Northside 2027	Housing (NS) Local Economy (NS)		

Table 53 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Create and Preserve Affordable Rental Housing
	Goal Description	The City proposes to increase the supply of affordable rental housing for the elderly and other very low income households by working with non-profit developers to create new assisted rental housing especially for the elderly and special needs households, pursuing additional resources for affordable housing and working with the Housing Authority of the City of Bethlehem to increase the number of Housing Choice Vouchers available to households in Bethlehem. The City proposes to preserve the existing supply of affordable rental units for the elderly and other low income households by evaluation and, if necessary, strengthening the City's rental registration and inspection program to guarantee that all rental units are Code compliant and through financial, CDBG or HOME, assistance to non-profit owners of affordable housing. The City will continue the registration and inspection program of all rental units for Code compliance.
2	Goal Name	Preserve Owner-Occupied Housing
	Goal Description	The City proposes to preserve and improve the condition of homes occupied by low income households by continuing the City Housing Rehabilitation Assistance for owner occupied properties. The Office of Housing and Community will re-evaluate Bethlehem's Housing Rehabilitation Policies and Procedures Manual, including all forms, legal documents and marketing materials. The City will continue to distribute lead-based paint educational materials and include lead remediation/abatement as part of the Housing Rehabilitation Program.

3	Goal Name	Enhance Homeownership Opportunities
	Goal Description	The City proposes to increase home ownership opportunities for low income households in Bethlehem through the City's Home Ownership Outreach Program (HOOP) and the continued support of HUD certified non-profit housing counseling organizations.
4	Goal Name	Address Impediments to Fair Housing Choice
	Goal Description	The City's goal is to increase understanding and compliance with Fair Housing Laws through financial support of North Penn Legal Services to provide workshops and awareness campaigns. The City has partnered with the Cities of Allentown and Easton and the Counties of Northampton and Lehigh to promote awareness of Fair Housing issues through a regional approach to Fair Housing education and enforcement.
5	Goal Name	Support Homeless Housing and Services
	Goal Description	The City's goal is to provide support to social service agencies and housing facilities serving homeless populations in coordination with the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Boards and the Eastern Pennsylvania Continuum of Care.
6	Goal Name	Support High Quality Public Services
	Goal Description	The City's goal is to support public and social services that affect the low and moderate income residents of Bethlehem. The City will continue to provide assistance to non-profit and quasi-public facilities that provide services to low income populations. Additionally, the City will continue to support public safety services and services to seniors, youth and the disabled.
7	Goal Name	Improve Public Facilities & Infrastructure
	Goal Description	The City will continue to fund improvements to public facilities and infrastructure in low income neighborhoods or serve low income clientele. Improvements will include sewer, water and right-of-way reconstruction, activities that remove architectural barriers to bring public facilities into compliance with ADA Standards, acquire fire fighting equipment and vehicles for fire stations with low income service areas, improve parks and playgrounds the serve low income neighborhoods.
8	Goal Name	Create and Preserve Local Jobs
	Goal Description	This goal will support the creation and preservation of local jobs by providing economic assistance to businesses employing low and moderate income workers in the form of grants and loans.

9	Goal Name	CDBG/HOME Program Administration
	Goal Description	Overall administration & planning of CDBG & HOME programs per HUD regulations. To include planning, record-keeping, reporting and overall grant management.
10	Goal Name	Safety and Mobility For All Modes Of Trans (NS)
	Goal Description	<p>Improve Safety And Mobility For All Modes Of Transportation By Providing High Quality Streetscapes And Neighborhood Amenities.</p> <p>The Northside has an advantage in that it is laid out as a dense and walkable urban neighborhood; however, fast speeds on major roads and other shifts toward auto-oriented lifestyles have made it less safe for residents to get around on foot or on a bicycle. This is especially challenging for the many school children who walk to and from school each day. Relatedly, the declining quality of the neighborhood's streetscapes and public realm make it a less welcoming and attractive place to walk around.</p> <p>More information on this Goal can be found on page 38 of the Northside 2027 Plan.</p>
11	Goal Name	Enhance Beautify Public Realm (NS)
	Goal Description	<p>Enhance And Beautify The Public Realm To Create A Sense Of Place.</p> <p>More information on this Goal can be found on page 42 of the Northside 2027 Plan.</p>
12	Goal Name	Physical Improvements To Broad Street Corr (NS)
	Goal Description	<p>Implement Physical Improvements To The Broad Street Corridor.</p> <p>More information on this Goal can be found on page 46 of the Northside 2027 Plan.</p>
13	Goal Name	Implement Physical Imps To Linden St Corr (NS)
	Goal Description	<p>Implement Physical Improvements To The Linden Street Corridor</p> <p>More information on this Goal can be found on page 48 of the Northside 2027 Plan.</p>

14	Goal Name	Support Existing Businesses And Attract New (NS)
	Goal Description	Support Existing Businesses And Attract New Ones More information on this Goal can be found on page 46 of the Northside 2027 Plan.
15	Goal Name	Support Homeowners And Renters (NS)
	Goal Description	Support Homeowners And Renters Through Incentives, Resources, And Enforcement. More information on this Goal can be found on page 54 of the Northside 2027 Plan.
16	Goal Name	Enhance Quality of Life For All Residents (NS)
	Goal Description	Enhance Quality of Life For All Residents More information on this Goal can be found on page 57 of the Northside 2027 Plan.
17	Goal Name	Expand Availability of Services (NS)
	Goal Description	Leverage Existing Neighborhood Assets to Expand Availability of Services More information on this Goal can be found on page 46 of the Northside 2027 Plan.
18	Goal Name	Build Community Cohesion (NS)
	Goal Description	Build Community Cohesion More information on this Goal can be found on page 63 of the Northside 2027 Plan.

Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.315(b)(2)

The City of Bethlehem expects to provide new affordability housing opportunities with HOME funds for the following income levels during this Consolidated Plan:

- Extremely Low Income: The City's regular investment in the rehabilitation of rental buildings like the Moravian House and YMCA are expected to benefit approximately 100 households earning less than 30% of AMI.

- Low Income Families: Approximately 10 families earning between 30% and 50% of Area Median Income by family size are expected to be provided affordable housing through a combination of first time homebuyer activities and housing development.
- Moderate-Income Families: Approximately 10 families earning between 50% and 80% of Area Median Income by family size are expected to be provided affordable housing through a combination of first time homebuyer activities and housing development.

SP-50 Public Housing Accessibility and Involvement – 91.215(c)

Need to Increase the Number of Accessible Units (if Required by a Section 504 Voluntary Compliance Agreement)

Public Housing residents and applicant's accessibility needs vary from size to configuration and amenities. The Bethlehem Housing Authority strives to place applicants in suitable units and transfer residents promptly after receiving the proper request and documentation from their physician. A full 5% of inventory is designed for tenants with accessibility needs.

Activities to Increase Resident Involvements

Since the passing of "The Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998", the Bethlehem Housing Authority has had a Resident Advisory Board, comprised of a representative from each development/ building. The Board members meet at least three (3) times a year to assist the Authority in preparation and updating of the Five Year and Annual Plans.

The Bethlehem Housing Authority encourages and funds Resident Councils in all of their developments/ buildings. The resident Council members are voted by the residents in an election process which is overseen by Housing Authority staff. Councils are required to hold meetings and set up information sessions that are of interest and importance to the residents. A meeting with Health Care Providers / Agencies is a popular topic.

Is the public housing agency designated as troubled under 24 CFR part 902?

No

Plan to remove the 'troubled' designation

N/A

SP-55 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.215(h)

Barriers to Affordable Housing

The City of Bethlehem on an ongoing basis examines the City's public policies with regard to the costs of housing to the incentives to develop, maintain or improve affordable housing in the City. The City's Zoning Ordinance provides for a variety of housing types and various densities and varying lot sizes. This variety reduces the potential for barriers to affordable housing as a result of regulatory policies. In addition, the City's Zoning Ordinance allows for emergency shelters, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing and group homes for the disabled. Bethlehem does not impose impact fees for development and permit fees are reasonable. Additionally, the city's Zoning Ordinance has a chapter on Workforce Housing Incentives to allow greater density when incorporating affordable housing units.

The City has historically allocated CDBG and HOME resources for direct housing assistance, including its Housing Rehabilitation Assistance Program for lower income home owners, the Down payment and Closing Cost Assistance Program to assist first time buyers, rehabilitation assistance to non-profit organizations for creation of transitional housing and affordable rental and for sale housing.

The City continues to fund the Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living to assist disabled persons obtain and maintain housing. Funds have also been used to assist housing related initiatives including the Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley and Neighborhood Housing Services of the Lehigh Valley, both of which are HUD certified housing counselors.

Bethlehem implements Lead Safe practices in carrying out rehab activities whenever possible using funds from the CDBG and HOME Programs and maintains a pool of qualified contractors to effectively and efficiently address lead-based paint hazards.

The City's Health Bureau receives funding from the state's Lead Hazard Control Program to control lead-based paint hazards in target housing in high risk areas. The City performs eligibility determinations on potentially eligible units, prioritizing units and performing lead-based paint combined inspection/risk assessments, lead-based paint hazard control related procedures and clearance procedures on those units.

The City's Code Enforcement Office works to see that codes are properly enforced and encourages affordable housing developers to introduce innovative/cost effective construction techniques and act as liaison between City and developers.

The City will utilize the Zoning Ordinance to work with private developers to utilize a density bonus to foster affordable housing development within the City. The City will advocate for other regulatory options to increase affordable housing.

Additionally, the city will incorporate affordable housing requirements into development incentives, such as Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance and Tax Increment Financing, when appropriate.

The City will continue programs to improve the housing stock occupied by low and moderate income households and to assist lower income persons to become home owners. Assistance to developers of affordable housing, for both owners and renters will be ongoing. Assistance to low and moderate income homeowners for housing rehabilitation, assistance to low and moderate income households to become homeowners, assistance to for-profit and non-profit developers to create affordable for sale housing and rental housing and to rehabilitate existing affordable rental developments for their continued viability as affordable units

Strategy to Remove or Ameliorate the Barriers to Affordable Housing

Market Conditions Action: Absent enforceable affordable housing goals and standards at the state level, it is difficult for the City to control market forces and/or establish meaningful affordable housing goals. Bethlehem will continue to work with private sector developers and non-profit housing sponsors to provide a balanced housing inventory of market rate and affordable housing opportunities. This can include the provision of financial incentives, prioritization of applications for State and/or Federal housing subsidize/tax credits, etc., and other incentives to address the financing “gaps” to address feasibility that otherwise limits or precludes affordable housing development.

Funding Action: Continue to support responsible applications for state/federal affordable housing programs pursued by local nonprofits and for profit developers. Financing tools that support feasibility and affordability are:

1. The PHFA administered Homeownership Choice Programs.
2. Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative
3. PA Neighborhood Assistance Act tax credits
4. PHFA New Markets tax credits
5. The Federal Home Loan Bank’s Affordable Housing

Low Incomes Action: In addition to the above, the City will continue to promote and implement economic development initiatives designed to create new employment opportunities and opportunities for advancement for low income residents. The City has historically allocated CDBG and HOME resources for direct housing assistance, including its Housing Rehabilitation Assistance Program for lower income home owners, the Home Ownership Outreach Program to assist first time buyers, rehabilitation assistance to non-profit organizations for creation of transitional housing and affordable rental and for sale housing.

SP-60 Homelessness Strategy – 91.215(d)

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

The Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board (LV RHAB) is the consortium of individuals, agencies and other stakeholders that direct and coordinate community-wide efforts toward ending chronic homelessness, preventing homelessness, and addressing housing insecurity in all communities in Lehigh and Northampton Counties.

The LV RHAB is one of several agencies and organizations involved in planning and implementing homeless programs and activities in the 33-county area under the Pennsylvania Eastern Continuum of Care Collaborative (PA Eastern CoC). The PA Eastern CoC has a primary relationship with the PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), which has responsibilities to the State Legislature for planning and implementing programs statewide. This includes the management of statewide homeless and housing programs including ESG, the completion of the state’s Consolidated Plan, and other statewide planning efforts.

In the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board (LV RHAB) Statement of Purpose, adopted September 9, 2014, chronic homeless (for anyone in our community) is no longer an issue within the Lehigh Valley. Housing insecurity and homelessness prevention is a community priority, Homelessness, if it occurs, is a short-term condition, lasting no more than 14 days. LV RHAB functions include:

- Combining evidence-based solutions and recommendations from national partners (USICH, NAEH, HUD, VA, for example) with local community knowledge to end chronic and veteran homelessness, prevent to occurrence of homelessness and to respond quickly should an event occur
- Fostering collaboration and interdependency between homeless service providers and mainstream and community resources
- Conducting regular homeless enumeration, identifying unmet needs and gaps in services
- Leveraging federal, state, and community resources in cost effective ways, eliminating duplication of efforts.

It is the responsibility of each Regional Homeless Advisory Board (RHAB) to identify regional and local homeless issues; implement the regional Continuum of Care plan; and monitor, review and rank projects funded through the regional Continuum of Care plan.

Addressing the emergency and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

It is difficult to measure the number of persons “at-risk” of becoming homeless. It is impossible to gauge at anyone time the number of people who are threatened with eviction, unemployment, foreclosure or termination of utilities. Most commonly a family is at risk when it lives paycheck to paycheck without

sufficient savings for sudden emergencies. Those who are vulnerable to residing in shelters or on the street and at risk of becoming homeless include; Persons leaving institutions, Households with incomes less than 30% of MFI, Households paying in excess of 50% of income for housing costs, Victims of domestic violence, Special needs populations and Single parent head of household who is unemployed.

Currently the City of Bethlehem relies heavily on the Continuum's strategy for implementing the homeless assistance program. This multiple approach to the problem focus' on the prevention of homelessness and the provision of emergency services for homeless persons and families. The considerable homeless shelters and transitional housing units in the City are detailed in the assisted Housing narrative

The Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board (LV RHAB) includes more than forty public, private and non-profit organizations. The most recent LV RHAB Work Plan Themes and Action Steps (2013) identified the following: (the space allocated in IDIS does not allow for the degree of detail available in this document)

1. Governance Charter: a. Incorporate written policies and procedures for a centralized or coordinated assessment system, a process for monitoring outcomes of ESG recipients and written standards for administering assistance, b. Develop a governance charter that includes the most recent HMIS requirements and outlines the roles
2. HMIS: a. Increase bed coverage in each category to be at least 65, b. Improve HMIS data quality, c. Use HMIS to monitor and prevent returns to homelessness
3. Reallocation Strategy: a. Create beds for chronically homeless, b. Create rapid re-housing programs
4. Monitoring: Set up system to monitor a. Chronic bed turnover, b. HUD objectives as reported in APRs, Project compliance with HUD requirements to increase capacity
5. Addressing Program Performance: a. Length of Time in Emergency Shelter or Transitional Housing, b. Return to Homelessness
6. ESG Coordination with Pennsylvania Eastern CoC Collaborative: a. Rapid Rehousing, b. Program Performance, c. Policies
7. Employment / Income: a. Employment Income, b. Non-Employment Income
8. Reduce Barriers to Program Utilization: a. Assess barriers to entry present in projects funded through CoC and ESG
9. Coordinated Assessment: a. How is the CoC's coordinated assessment system used, b. Develop tools and approach to coordinate assessment
10. Outreach: a. Examine current outreach procedures and develop appropriate training, b. Continue outreach and engagement
11. Discharge Planning: a. Discharge Planning: Health Care, b. Discharge Planning: Corrections
12. Services Funding Strategy: a. Explore funding sources other than ESG and CDBG

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to

permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again.

Treating the homeless and providing the means and support necessary to make the transition to permanent housing and independent living are all a part of the efforts and programs in place in the City through the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board, Continuum of Care. The institutions and structure to properly address this issue are in place and are described in the homeless inventory section of the Plan.

Help low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families who are likely to become homeless after being discharged from a publicly funded institution or system of care, or who are receiving assistance from public and private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education or youth needs

In establishing City priorities, the prevention of homelessness is a key element in these efforts. By funding the City's housing rehabilitation activities with CDBG and HOME funds and provision of housing and referral services for low-income households, the City hopes to prevent the conditions that would precipitate homelessness. Additionally the City through their Entitlement allocations assists Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing providers to make improvements to their facilities to guarantee long term housing viability.

Based on the Pennsylvania Eastern Continuum of Care Collaborative's Governance Charter and the Lehigh Valley Regional Homeless Advisory Board's Work Plan and Action Steps, the City of Bethlehem supports the following strategies and objectives to address the issue of homelessness. These are Regional Objectives, Proposed Actions and Goals and are not subdivided specifically for Bethlehem.

Priority 1: Housing Facilities for Homeless and Special Needs Populations

- Create new permanent housing for homeless disabled population
- Create new permanent housing for chronically homeless persons
- Increase percentage of homeless persons moving from transitional housing to permanent housing
- Increase percentage of persons staying in permanent housing over 6 months

Priority 2: Institutional Discharge and Services

- Prevent homelessness among individuals leaving community hospitals

- Prevent homelessness among individuals leaving correctional facilities and increase permanent housing for individuals with a criminal record
- Prevent homelessness among youth exiting the Children and Youth System
- Increase percentage of homeless persons becoming employed
- Ensure that the Continuum of Care has a functional HMIS system
- Expand the capacity of local service providers in rural areas to serve the chronically homeless
- Develop more permanent service-enriched (supportive) housing for homeless families requiring services
- Ensure access to employment and training services for homeless persons

Bethlehem recognizes the Discharge Planning Policy prepared by the PA Eastern CoC. These policies were developed in order to prevent the discharge of persons from medical institutions or other systems of care resulting in homelessness. The Commonwealth of PA has established formal policies regarding discharge of persons from State mental health or corrections facilities. For mental health, there can be no discharge unless all housing, treatment, case management and rehabilitation services are in place. Each State mental hospital has a Service Area Planning Team which is charged with developing a plan for moving individuals from the hospital to the community. Discharge is dependent upon an approved Home Plan.

In regards to Foster Care, PA has established a process to be Discharged from the Foster Care / Child Welfare System. This includes information on Age Limits, Reason for Discharge from Foster Care/ Child Welfare System, Available Programming (Instruction in daily living skills, home management, career planning, education and training, job placement and readiness and financial management), Juvenile Court, Legislation and Contact Information.

Hospitals (Health Care facilities) in Pennsylvania must have written discharge policies for “appropriate referral and transfer plans that comply with requirements of the Federal Conditions for Participation in Medicare and Medicaid Services.

SP-65 Lead based paint Hazards – 91.215(i)

Actions to address LBP hazards and increase access to housing without LBP hazards

In 2019 the State of Pennsylvania received a \$2.5M grant from the US Department of Housing & Urban Development to address lead-based paint poisoning. The State's application specifically named the City of Bethlehem as one of eight target areas for the program based on its concentration of older housing units, young children and low-income residents. While the program provides testing services for children and training opportunities for contractors to become lead certified, the most significant impact is likely to be the dozens of homes in the City that will no longer be posing a threat to the health and safety of its occupants.

The City is also joined forces to create the Bethlehem, Easton, and Northampton County (BEN) Lead Coalition. BEN provides free lead abatement training to contractors and their workforce to learn how to safely remove lead paint from residential structures. Training is available to established contractors and potential new workers who will participate in BEN Lead Coalition projects within Northampton County. A BEN Lead Coalition priority is to ensure all projects have the necessary trained personnel, so our residents are protected from lead-based paint hazards.

How are the actions listed above related to the extent of lead poisoning and hazards?

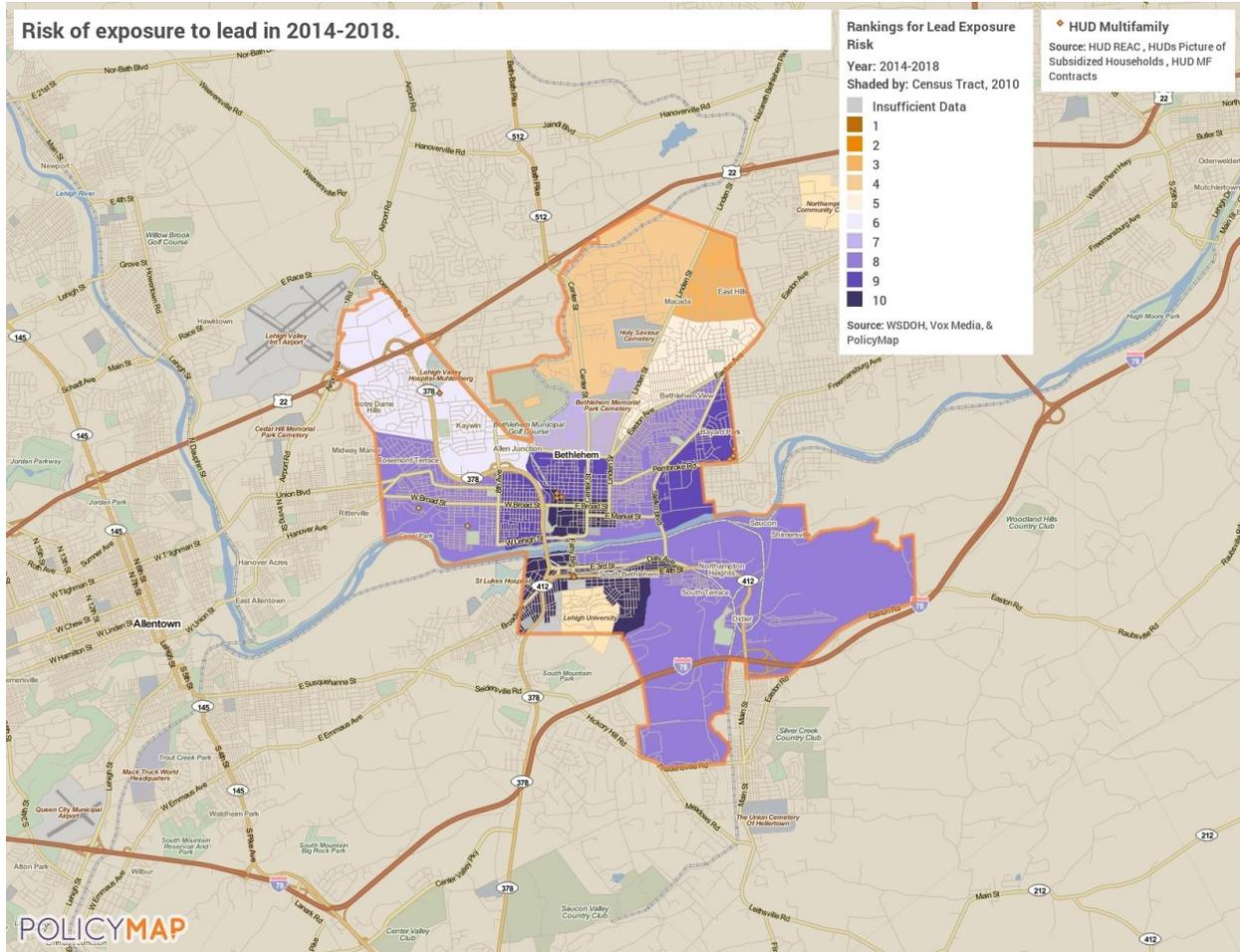
According to the 2010 Census the City of Bethlehem had 31,540 housing units, of which 70.1 percent of the total units (22,119) were constructed prior to 1980. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has determined that the likelihood of finding lead-based paint increases with the age of the home. That is, a unit constructed prior to 1940 has an 87 percent chance of having a lead hazards; units built between 1940 – 1959 have a 69 percent chance; and units built between 1960 – 1978 have a 24 percent chance of having a lead hazard. Using this formula, 52 percent (16,540) of the City of Bethlehem's housing units can be estimated to have lead-based paint present. This is a significant number of homes with potential lead hazards when comparing the national and state percentages of 29 and 45 percent respectively.

Table 1. National, State, and Local Housing Units Built Prior to 1979 and the EPA Comparative Number Estimated Housing with Lead Based Paint, using likelihood of 87 percent for pre-1940, 69 percent for 1940-1959, and 24 percent for 1960-1979.

How are the actions listed above integrated into housing policies and procedures?

Funding for home modification and lead abatement is available to income-eligible homeowners through the City of Bethlehem's Housing Rehabilitation Program. In recent years the City of Bethlehem has annually invested \$400,000 of CDBG funding for its Housing Rehabilitation program in anticipation of increased costs for lead-based paint abatement/remediation. Although lead abatement is the preferred

mechanism to address lead based paint, due to the extensive costs of lead abatement and the total number of homes that are likely to be contaminated with lead, the Bethlehem Housing Rehabilitation Program will focus on lead hazard reduction, (i.e., interim controls), until the total number of lead contaminated homes has been significantly reduced.



Risk of Exposure to Lead

SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy – 91.215(j)

Jurisdiction Goals, Programs and Policies for reducing the number of Poverty-Level Families

Poverty is clearly a concern in the City of Bethlehem. Poverty is directly related to education, job training and employment opportunities. The objective of poverty reduction requires programming for job training and placement, public services, education, and basic skills development. The overriding principle however is to create new jobs and opportunities for households with incomes below the poverty level. It is only through comprehensive, coordinated strategies that nurture skills and provide opportunities to gain and retain employment, and thus improve the quality of life, that people can improve their situation.

The City of Bethlehem's economic development efforts have been comprehensive and are documented in the Non-Housing Community Development Needs section of this Consolidated Plan. The City administers or participates in several programs to retain and enhance local business growth, including:

- Downtown Bethlehem Association
- Keystone Opportunity Zone
- Bethlehem's Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Act (LERTA)
- Keystone Innovation Zone
- Enterprise Zone
- Bethlehem Small Business Loan Fund
- Micro-Enterprise Loan Program
- City Revitalization and Improvement Zone

As outlined above, the City has a comprehensive economic development program in support of the goals outlined by the Lehigh Valley Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. Components of the economic development program were detailed in the City's prior Consolidated Plan (2015-2019) and include:

- Maintaining an inventory of available land and buildings
- Offering entrepreneurs and business owners technical assistance
- Offering Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA), a tax abatement program
- Providing tax credits for certain specified Pennsylvania taxes, and
- Assisting with substantial land development projects, urban renewal, and improvements through the Lehigh Valley Regional Loan Pool.

How are the Jurisdiction poverty reducing goals, programs, and policies coordinated with this affordable housing plan

Over a prolonged period, Bethlehem faced significant economic dislocation as a result of the closing of Bethlehem Steel. The City has continued to pursue redevelopment of the site in support of community renewal that alleviates poverty. Activities related to the former Bethlehem Steel site include:

- Northampton County issued bonds to support infrastructure development on the site.
- The Steel Ice Center, an ice skating rink.
- Bethlehem Commerce Center
- Lehigh Valley Industrial Park VII
- Northampton Community College
- The National Museum of Industrial History
- ArtsQuest of Bethlehem
- PBS Channel 39
- Wind Creek Bethlehem, a hotel, casino and outlet mall.

Beyond the important economic development programs, it is essential to provide the basic skills, training and education necessary to make a person employable in today's competitive job market.

- The PA Workforce Investment Board's CareerLink Lehigh Valley - provides free GED classes; for High School graduates or persons with a GED, CareerLink provides access and financial assistance for training in Healthcare/Life Sciences, Advanced Materials Manufacturing, Business Services, Information and Communications and Financial Services; for individuals ages 18 through 21 there is the Employment & Academic Opportunity Program that provides job training in construction and academic classes; CareerLink also provides a great number of Workshops, including Intensive Job Search Activities and Occupational Skills Training, Adult Basic Learning Exams, Microsoft Word, Internet Job Search, etc.; CareerLink provides other services for both out-of-school and in-school youth.
- The Veterans Outreach and Assistance Center - Veterans can receive benefit information and services through the State Representative's office in Bethlehem.

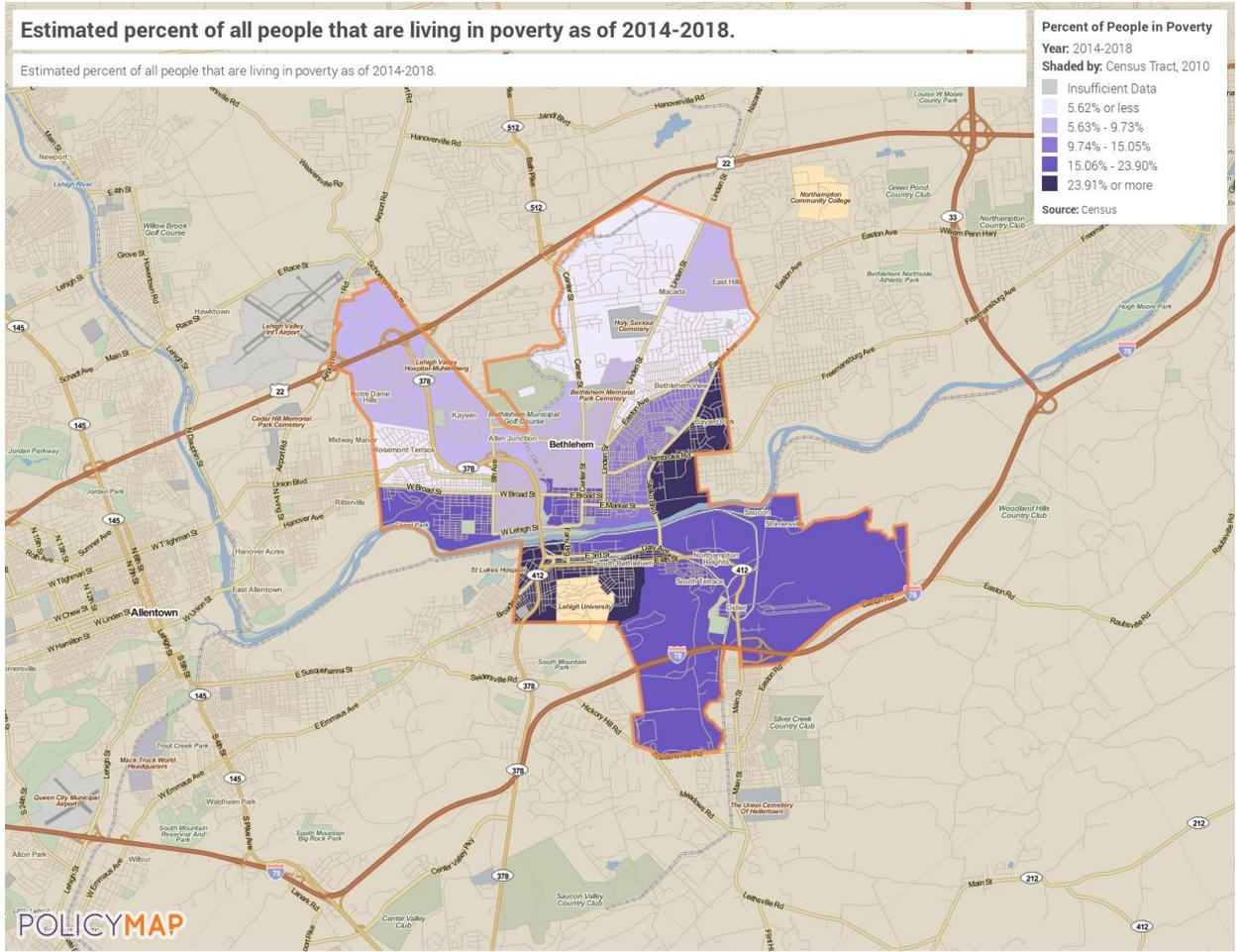
Many of the people living in poverty are not employable and thus the City works with numerous public, private and non-profit service providers to develop and implement direct assistance and service delivery programs to improve the quality of life of these persons. This step in providing health and social services is necessary to enable an unemployed person to become employable. These activities center around education, employment, life skills, mental health / drug abuse / HIV services, healthcare, transportation, etc. and are provided in Bethlehem by:

- AIDSNET
- ARC of Lehigh and Northampton Counties
- Bethlehem Area Vocational-Technical School
- Career Link (WIB)
- Community Action Committee of Lehigh Valley

- Council of Spanish Speaking Organizations of Lehigh Valley
- Head Start of the Lehigh Valley
- Hispanic Center of the Lehigh Valley
- LANTA METRO
- LANTA METRO PLUS
- New Bethany Ministries
- Northampton Co. Mental Health, Mental Retardation, Drug & Alcohol
- Step By Step, Inc.
- Turning Point of Lehigh Valley
- VIA
- Work/Life Center (Northampton Community College)

The Bethlehem Housing Authority, the provider of affordable housing, is aware of the programs available for residents and makes appropriate referrals, as well as providing some programs on site. The Housing Authority has developed Family Self-Sufficiency Programs. The focus of these programs is to encourage public housing residents to achieve economic sufficiency in order to achieve independence from government subsidies.

The varied activities help create job opportunities that help alleviate poverty in Bethlehem. The City will continue to invest in job-creating activities with an emphasis on hiring low income residents and increasing the supply of good-paying jobs.



Est People Living Below Poverty Line

SP-80 Monitoring – 91.230

Describe the standards and procedures that the jurisdiction will use to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and will use to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements

Performance monitoring is an important component in the long-term success of the C-Plan. The City, through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), has developed standards and procedures for ensuring that the recipients of CDBG and funds meet the purposes of the legislation and regulations.

DCED oversees the City's housing and community development programs, and is responsible for all performance measurement activities. DCED has incorporated HUD's Performance Measurement standards into the process of awarding funds, allocating resources, and obtaining progress and completion reports. The monitoring procedures under this Plan will continue to build upon existing monitoring systems used by the City which have proven successful. Recent HUD and OIG audits found no significant issues with administration of these Federal programs.

DCED is responsible for overseeing the implementation of public improvement and facilities projects in targeted areas, implements a housing rehabilitation program for low- and moderate-income homeowners and contracts with Rising Tide Community Loan Fund to administer economic development activities to assist businesses.

DCED's standards and procedures for monitoring are designed to ensure that:

1. Objectives of the Housing and Community Development Act and the National Affordable Housing Act are met,
2. Program activities are progressing in compliance with the specifications and schedule for each program,
3. Recipients are in compliance with other applicable laws, implementing regulations, etc.
4. That the housing rehabilitation program is in conformance with: Section 504 Handicapped Accessibility, Section 106 Historic Preservation, Housing Quality Standards, Lead-Based Paint regulations and Displacement / Relocation regulations

DCED will review all proposed activities for eligibility per statutory and regulatory requirements, and for meeting identified needs in this Plan.

Action Plan activities will be monitored through the use of checklists and forms to facilitate uniform monitoring. Each year DCED re-examines the forms used to determine what revisions are necessary. Each description of projects and activities will contain the specific performance measures by which the project will be evaluated.

Fiscal monitoring will include review and approval of budgets, compliance with Grant Agreements, approval of vouchers and reviews of fiscal reports and sub-recipient audits. The HUD CDBG and HOME Programs are annually included in the City's Annual Financial Audit.

Monitoring of sub-recipients will occur through regular telephone and on-site monitoring visits. These visits will be conducted at least once a year. For public facilities and housing projects, site visits, will be conducted at least every other year to assure benefit to low-income residents.

Minority Business Outreach - The City shall encourage participation by minority-owned businesses in CDBG assisted activities and shall maintain records concerning the participation of minority-owned businesses to assess the results of its efforts and to complete the semiannual "Minority Business Enterprise Report" to HUD. Qualified minority contractor are encouraged to bid on properties participating in the Housing Rehabilitation Program.

Comprehensive Planning Requirements - To ensure compliance with the comprehensive planning requirements of the Consolidated Plan process, DCED reviews the process on an ongoing basis. The review ensures compliance with federal requirements concerning citizen participation and consistency of actions taken with those specified in the "Citizen Participation Plan." Records documenting actions taken are being maintained for each program year.

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

In addition to the entitlement grant amounts announced by HUD, the City of Bethlehem brings a wide variety of resources and effort to bear on addressing the community's needs. All potential funding sources - state, federal and private - are investigated and pursued as appropriate. The City has several million dollars in applications pending to further redevelop some of the same low-moderate income areas being aided with CDBG funds as well as the adjoining commercial areas that must play a significant role in ongoing efforts to improve the quality of life for all of our residents.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	1,354,385	0	0	1,354,385	5,400,000	Estimated at 4 times estimated Year 1 allocation

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	398,607	0	0	398,607	1,600,000	Estimated at 4 times estimated Year 1 allocation

Table 54 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

The City provides only a portion of the cost of activities: affordable housing, public facilities/infrastructure or public services. CDBG funds for public services activities is matched with numerous state funding sources and local donations. Most public facilities /infrastructure projects are primarily funded through state grants and City Bonds with CDBG being local match or providing for a funding gap.

With respect to affordable housing, HOME funds require a 25% match from other sources, but with the shrinking HOME budget, the other funding sources generally exceed the City investment and thus the match requirement.

If appropriate, describe publically owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan

City parks and streets being improved are the only publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that is currently anticipated to be used to address the needs identified in the plan.

Discussion

While available resources are insufficient to meet all needs, careful monitoring, diligent leveraging and ongoing coordination helps the City of Bethlehem assure that its residents receive the most benefit from the CDBG and HOME funding received.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Create and Preserve Affordable Rental Housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	City of Bethlehem	Improve the quality of existing housing Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods Housing (NS)	HOME: \$100,000	Rental units rehabilitated: 138 Household Housing Unit
2	Preserve Owner-Occupied Housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	City of Bethlehem	Improve the quality of existing housing Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods Housing (NS)	CDBG: \$370,492 HOME: \$125,093	Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 14 Household Housing Unit
3	Address Impediments to Fair Housing Choice	2020	2024	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless	City of Bethlehem	Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods Enhance the Availability of Community Services Housing (NS)	CDBG: \$20,000	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 30 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Support High Quality Public Services	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	City of Bethlehem	Support the Growth of the Local Economy Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods Enhance the Availability of Community Services Housing (NS) Local Economy (NS)	CDBG: \$168,190	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 92000 Persons Assisted
5	Enhance Homeownership Opportunities	2020	2024	Affordable Housing	City of Bethlehem	Increase the rate of homeownership Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods Housing (NS)	HOME: \$105,000	Homeowner Housing Added: 2 Household Housing Unit Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 5 Households Assisted
6	Support Homeless Housing and Services	2020	2024	Homeless	City of Bethlehem	Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods Enhance the Availability of Community Services	CDBG: \$35,000	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 200 Households Assisted Homelessness Prevention: 25 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
7	Improve Public Facilities & Infrastructure	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	City of Bethlehem	Provide quality infrastructure and comm facilities Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods Transportation & Streetscape (NS)	CDBG: \$235,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 90000 Persons Assisted Facade treatment/business building rehabilitation: 10 Business Buildings Demolished: 5 Buildings
8	Create and Preserve Local Jobs	2021	2024	Non-Housing Community Development	City of Bethlehem	Support the Growth of the Local Economy Local Economy (NS)		
9	CDBG/HOME Program Administration	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development		Planning and Administration	CDBG: \$250,920 HOME: \$39,868	Other: 1 Other

Table 55 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Create and Preserve Affordable Rental Housing
	Goal Description	
2	Goal Name	Preserve Owner-Occupied Housing
	Goal Description	This projects includes the hard and soft costs required to rehabilitate owner-occupied housing under both the CDBG and HOME programs.

3	Goal Name	Address Impediments to Fair Housing Choice
	Goal Description	
4	Goal Name	Support High Quality Public Services
	Goal Description	
5	Goal Name	Enhance Homeownership Opportunities
	Goal Description	This goal covers both a rehabilitation & resale activity as well as direct homebuyer assistance.
6	Goal Name	Support Homeless Housing and Services
	Goal Description	
7	Goal Name	Improve Public Facilities & Infrastructure
	Goal Description	
8	Goal Name	Create and Preserve Local Jobs
	Goal Description	
9	Goal Name	CDBG/HOME Program Administration
	Goal Description	

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

With input from a variety of stakeholders, with data from a variety of sources and with hands-on experience in front-line services to the most vulnerable populations in the City, Bethlehem again plans a mix of activities in FY 2020 to address a wide range of challenges for those populations. Infrastructure improvements, housing rehab, recreation facilities and programming and support for public facilities improvements are just some of the approaches to improving neighborhoods, houses and, most importantly, families in Bethlehem. Applications for funding are made available around July of each year. These applications are available on our website, at City Hall and are also directly emailed to organizations that have requested funding during the previous program year and remain interested in future funding. The city keeps a list of new and interested organizations that are in contact during the year and directly mails applications to these groups as well. The applications are due back in September, when a small internal committee scores the applications based on the quality of the project, the need for the project in the city, if the project is duplicative of another existing project, value of the resources versus the number of residents served and alignment with the city's goals and objectives. Funding is awarded based on our anticipated award, level of impact on residents and need for the program. The suggested allocations are then sent to both the Mayor and City Council for final approval.

Projects

#	Project Name
1	Administration & Planning
2	Legal Services for Families Facing Housing Discrimination (North Penn Legal Services)
3	Neighborhood Housing Organizer (Community Action Dev Corp of Bethlehem)
4	Crossroads at Lincoln Elementary (Center for Humanistic Change)
5	Empowerment Program (Hispanic Center of LV)
6	Long Term Inpatient Rehabilitation (Hogar Crea)
7	PLACE (Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living)
8	Representative Payee Program (New Bethany Ministries)
9	Faith In Action (ShareCare)
10	Embrace Your Dream (First Tee Golf Project)
11	TechGYRLS STEM (YWCA)
12	Food Co-op Planning (Bethlehem Food Co-op)
13	Southside Recreation (City of Bethlehem)
14	Community Safety (City of Bethlehem Police Department)
15	Library Elevator (Bethlehem Public Library)

#	Project Name
16	South Bethlehem Facade and Weatherization (CADCB)
17	Blight Remediation (Bethlehem RDA)
18	Childcare Wing Renovations Phase I cont'd (YMCA)
20	Home Purchase Assistance Program Delivery (CALCV)
21	Blight Remediation Program Delivery (Bethlehem RDA)
22	Housing Rehab Program Delivery (City of Bethlehem)
23	CDBG and HOME Housing Rehabilitation (City of Bethlehem)
24	Park Improvements (City of Bethlehem)
25	Road Reconstruction (City of Bethlehem)
26	Home Rehabilitation & Resale (CALCV)
27	First Time Homebuyer Assistance (Habitat for Humanity)
28	Moravian House Flooring Replacement (Moravian Dev Corp)
29	SRO Rehabilitation (YMCA)

Table 56 – Project Information

Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	Administration & Planning
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	CDBG/HOME Program Administration
	Needs Addressed	Planning and Administration
	Funding	CDBG: \$250,920 HOME: \$39,868
	Description	Salary and wages of local staff as well as professional fees for consultants to assist with the administration of the program.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Not applicable.
	Location Description	Not applicable.
	Planned Activities	This activity will reimburse the City for salary and wages of employees administering the CDBG and HOME programs. Funds may also be used to pay for professional services.
2	Project Name	Legal Services for Families Facing Housing Discrimination (North Penn Legal Services)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Address Impediments to Fair Housing Choice
	Needs Addressed	Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods Enhance the Availability of Community Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000
	Description	Free legal from North Penn Legal Services for residents that have faced housing discrimination.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately twenty (20) low and moderate income families facing housing discrimination.
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Free legal services will be provided by North Penn Legal Services.
3	Project Name	Neighborhood Housing Organizer (Community Action Dev Corp of Bethlehem)
	Target Area	Northside 2027

	Goals Supported	Support High Quality Public Services Create and Preserve Local Jobs
	Needs Addressed	Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods Enhance the Availability of Community Services Local Economy (NS)
	Funding	CDBG: \$5,000
	Description	Expansion of an existing housing coordinator position to assist with the implementation of the Northside 2027 Neighborhood Plan.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The residents of the Northside Neighborhood will benefit from the proposed activity.
	Location Description	Northside Neighborhood.
	Planned Activities	Funds will expand the hours of an existing staff person to dedicate time to the Northside Neighborhood.
4	Project Name	Crossroads at Lincoln Elementary (Center for Humanistic Change)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Support High Quality Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Enhance the Availability of Community Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$6,000
	Description	This mentoring program will serve at risk students at the Lincoln Elementary School.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	At Risk K-5 students from Lincoln Elementary
	Location Description	Lincoln Elementary School, 1260 Gresham St, Bethlehem, PA 18017
	Planned Activities	The program will provide mentoring services.
5	Project Name	Empowerment Program (Hispanic Center of LV)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Support High Quality Public Services

	Needs Addressed	Support the Growth of the Local Economy Enhance the Availability of Community Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	The Project run by the Hispanic Center of Lehigh Valley offers resources to stabilize individuals and families in crisis, enable educational success and promote financial independence.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
6	Project Name	Long Term Inpatient Rehabilitation (Hogar Crea)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Support High Quality Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Enhance the Availability of Community Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$30,000
	Description	Operational expenses of a long term inpatient rehabilitation facility for addiction.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Low and moderate income women struggling with addiction.
	Location Description	Hogar Crea, 1409 Pembroke Rd, Bethlehem, PA 18017
	Planned Activities	Operational support of an addiction center.
7	Project Name	PLACE (Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Support Homeless Housing and Services Support High Quality Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods Enhance the Availability of Community Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,000

	Description	The Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living provides case management that will serve 25 low income disabled residents at risk of homelessness.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	25 low income disabled residents at risk of homelessness.
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Case management services for low income disabled residents at risk of homelessness.
8	Project Name	Representative Payee Program (New Bethany Ministries)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Support Homeless Housing and Services Support High Quality Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Enhance the Availability of Community Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000
	Description	New Bethany Ministries' Representative Payee Program is a homeless prevention and fiscal case management program for individuals who collect Social Security.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Between 25 and 35 extremely low income households struggling with personal budgeting.
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Receive Social Security payments for clients, pay bills, provide budget counseling, and require a savings plan.
9	Project Name	Faith In Action (ShareCare)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Support High Quality Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods Enhance the Availability of Community Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$9,844

	Description	ShareCare's Faith in Action program provides free volunteer services to elderly or disabled persons in order to enhance quality of life.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Between 80 and 100 elderly and disabled low income residents.
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Support services for elderly and disabled.
10	Project Name	Embrace Your Dream (First Tee Golf Project)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Support High Quality Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Enhance the Availability of Community Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$7,500
	Description	Afterschool golf program for low income youth.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Fifty (50) low income youth.
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	Afterschool golf lessons for youth.
11	Project Name	TechGYRLS STEM (YWCA)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Support High Quality Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Enhance the Availability of Community Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$7,500
	Description	The YWCA's TechGYRLS STEM program provides afterschool educational programming for girls age 9-13.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Low income girls aged 9-13.
	Location Description	Elementary schools throughout the City.

	Planned Activities	Afterschool STEM educational programming.
12	Project Name	Food Co-op Planning (Bethlehem Food Co-op)
	Target Area	Northside 2027
	Goals Supported	Improve Public Facilities & Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Provide quality infrastructure and comm facilities Support the Growth of the Local Economy
	Funding	CDBG: \$105,000
	Description	The Bethlehem Food Co-Op will use the funds planning and analysis of the creation of a food co-op.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	The project will benefit all families on the North side of Bethlehem.
	Location Description	TBD
	Planned Activities	Professional fees, wages and salaries
13	Project Name	Southside Recreation (City of Bethlehem)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Support High Quality Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods Enhance the Availability of Community Services
	Funding	CDBG: \$15,000
	Description	
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	Parks in the Southside of Bethlehem.
	Planned Activities	Recreational programming for youth.
14	Project Name	Community Safety (City of Bethlehem Police Department)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Support High Quality Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Enhance public safety

	Funding	CDBG: \$77,129
	Description	Overtime for police patrols in income-eligible residential neighborhoods.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	A minimum of 15,000 residents of income-eligible residential areas.
	Location Description	Income-eligible residential areas throughout Bethlehem, though largely on the South Side.
	Planned Activities	Overtime for police patrols in income-eligible residential neighborhoods.
15	Project Name	Library Elevator (Bethlehem Public Library)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Improve Public Facilities & Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Provide quality infrastructure and comm facilities
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000
	Description	This project will install an elevator to provide access to the community meeting space in the Bethlehem Public Library.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	All residents of the City with a mobility impairment will benefit from the project.
	Location Description	11 West Church Street, Bethlehem, PA
	Planned Activities	Hard and soft costs associated with the installation of an elevator.
16	Project Name	South Bethlehem Facade and Weatherization (CADCB)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Improve Public Facilities & Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Support the Growth of the Local Economy Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods
	Funding	CDBG: \$30,000
	Description	Facade and weatherization improvements for properties in South Bethlehem.

	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 10 property owners in South Bethlehem will benefit.
	Location Description	South Bethlehem
	Planned Activities	Hard and soft costs associated with facade and weatherization improvements.
17	Project Name	Blight Remediation (Bethlehem RDA)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Preserve Owner-Occupied Housing
	Needs Addressed	Enhance public safety Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods
	Funding	CDBG: \$5,000
	Description	Funds will be used to pay for soft costs related to blight remediation.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Hard costs associated with stabilizing or demolishing unsafe buildings.
18	Project Name	Childcare Wing Renovations Phase I cont'd (YMCA)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Improve Public Facilities & Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Provide quality infrastructure and comm facilities
	Funding	CDBG: \$75,000
	Description	Assistance with improvements to the YMCA building, which houses community services, including child care.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	At least 5,000 individuals use the community center portion of the Y each year, 70% of whom are low-mod income.

	Location Description	430 E. Broad St., Bethlehem
	Planned Activities	Assistance with improvements to the YMCA building, which houses community services, including child care.
19	Project Name	Home Purchase Assistance Program Delivery (CALCV)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Enhance Homeownership Opportunities
	Needs Addressed	Increase the rate of homeownership
	Funding	CDBG: \$20,000
	Description	Funds the operation support for the Community Action Financial Services in order to carry out the HOOPS program for down payment and closing costs assistance funded through the HOME program.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Low and moderate income first time homebuyers. Beneficiaries will be counted in the HOME project funding the homebuyer assistance.
	Location Description	NA
	Planned Activities	Program delivery costs to operate a HOME-funded first time homebuyer assistance program.
20	Project Name	Blight Remediation Program Delivery (Bethlehem RDA)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Support High Quality Public Services
	Needs Addressed	Enhance public safety Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods
	Funding	CDBG: \$10,000
	Description	Soft costs associated with running the blight remediation program.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Beneficiaries will be tracked with the Blight Remediation Program.
	Location Description	NA
	Planned Activities	Wages and benefits for staff to run blight remediation program.

21	Project Name	Housing Rehab Program Delivery (City of Bethlehem)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Preserve Owner-Occupied Housing
	Needs Addressed	Improve the quality of existing housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$130,000
	Description	Soft costs associated with implementing the owner-occupied housing rehab program.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Beneficiaries will be tracked in the housing rehab activity.
	Location Description	City-wide
	Planned Activities	Salary, wages and consulting fees to implement the housing rehabilitation program.
22	Project Name	CDBG and HOME Housing Rehabilitation (City of Bethlehem)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Preserve Owner-Occupied Housing
	Needs Addressed	Improve the quality of existing housing
	Funding	CDBG: \$230,492 HOME: \$142,384
	Description	Construction costs associated with rehabilitating homes.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Approximately 34 low and moderate income residents.
	Location Description	Citywide
	Planned Activities	Rehabilitation costs associated with removing code violations and improving energy consumption in homes.
23	Project Name	Park Improvements (City of Bethlehem)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Improve Public Facilities & Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Provide quality infrastructure and comm facilities Foster Strong, Vibrant Neighborhoods

	Funding	CDBG: \$100,000
	Description	Hard and soft costs associated with improving public parks.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Residents served by parks in low and moderate income neighborhoods.
	Location Description	TBD
	Planned Activities	Hard and soft costs associated with park improvements.
24	Project Name	Road Reconstruction (City of Bethlehem)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Improve Public Facilities & Infrastructure
	Needs Addressed	Provide quality infrastructure and comm facilities
	Funding	CDBG: \$155,000
	Description	Hard and soft costs associated with reconstructing Carlton Avenue.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Residents along Carlton Avenue.
	Location Description	Carlton Avenue, Bethlehem, PA
	Planned Activities	Engineering and construction costs associated with road reconstruction.
25	Project Name	Home Rehabilitation & Resale (CACLV)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Preserve Owner-Occupied Housing Enhance Homeownership Opportunities
	Needs Addressed	Increase the rate of homeownership
	Funding	HOME: \$54,000
	Description	CACLV will acquire and resell approximately one (1) single-family homes.
	Target Date	12/31/2020

	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	1 low income family will benefit.
	Location Description	TBD
	Planned Activities	Hard and soft costs associated with housing rehabilitation and resale.
26	Project Name	First Time Homebuyer Assistance (Habitat for Humanity)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Preserve Owner-Occupied Housing Enhance Homeownership Opportunities
	Needs Addressed	Improve the quality of existing housing Increase the rate of homeownership
	Funding	CDBG: \$50,000
	Description	Habitat for Humanity will provide financial assistance for the purchase of one (1) unit.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	One low income family.
	Location Description	TBD
	Planned Activities	Funds will be used for downpayment and closing cost assistance.
27	Project Name	Moravian House Flooring Replacement (Moravian Dev Corp)
	Target Area	Northside 2027
	Goals Supported	Create and Preserve Affordable Rental Housing
	Needs Addressed	Improve the quality of existing housing
	Funding	HOME: \$75,000
	Description	The project will provide funds to improve the flooring in a 105 unit senior housing project.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	One hundred fifty (150) senior citizens.
	Location Description	737 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018

	Planned Activities	Hard and soft costs associated with replacing flooring.
28	Project Name	SRO Rehabilitation (YMCA)
	Target Area	City of Bethlehem
	Goals Supported	Create and Preserve Affordable Rental Housing
	Needs Addressed	Improve the quality of existing housing
	Funding	HOME: \$25,000
	Description	The project will provide rehabilitation funds for 33 single room occupancy (SRO) units.
	Target Date	12/31/2020
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	Thirty three (33) low income residents of the YMCA SRO will benefit.
	Location Description	430 E Broad St, Bethlehem, PA 18018
	Planned Activities	Soft and hard costs related to rehabilitation of housing units.

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

In this first year of including an NRSA designation for the Northside neighborhood, the City is targeting less than 1% of CDBG funds specifically to the neighborhood.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
City of Bethlehem	99

Table 57 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Discussion

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

Affordable Housing activities in FY2020 include: rehab of owner-occupied units and construction of new homebuyer units; homebuyer assistance. While housing services are also included in the 2020 Action Plan, those activities are not included in this section per the instructions found in the e-Con Planning Suite Desk Guide. The goals listed below include only the rehab or construction of housing units and purchase of units. These goals include: owner-occupied rehab - 34 units of full rehab; Habitat for Humanity - 1 affordable for sale units; Community Development Corporation of the Lehigh Valley - 1 affordable for sale unit; Home Ownership Opportunity Program - 10 direct homebuyer assistance units; Habitat for Humanity - 1 affordable for sale unit; Moravian House - rehabilitation benefiting 105 senior rental units; YMCA - rehabilitation benefitting 33 SRO units.

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	30
Non-Homeless	185
Special-Needs	0
Total	215

Table 58 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	0
The Production of New Units	13
Rehab of Existing Units	34
Acquisition of Existing Units	1
Total	48

Table 59 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Bethlehem Housing Authority owns and operates more than 1200 affordable housing units across 11 properties in the City of Bethlehem.

Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing

The Bethlehem Housing Authority reports that almost all complexes are in good condition, with a few considered fair. The BHA will continue annually to make improvements to complexes in general and housing units where needed to guarantee a safe, decent home for each resident.

Actions to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership

Since the passing of “The Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998”, the Bethlehem Housing Authority has had a Resident Advisory Board, comprised of a representative from each development/ building. The Board members meet monthly to assist the Authority in preparation and updating of the Five Year and Annual Plans.

The Bethlehem Housing Authority encourages and funds Resident Councils in all of their developments/ buildings. The resident Council members are voted by the residents in an election process which is overseen by Housing Authority staff. Councils are required to hold meetings and set up information sessions that are of interest and importance to the residents. A meeting with Health Care Providers / Agencies is a popular topic.

Representatives from the City receive all BHA meeting agendas and minutes and review all to become familiar with concerns of the board and, more importantly, the resident advisory board. We supply information regarding HOME funded units to the Director and have requested our HOME funded organizations directly solicit residents of the BHA when marketing their apartment units or income qualified homes.

Information on the City's Home Ownership Opportunity Program (HOOP) will be provided to Housing Authority residents.

If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance

The Bethlehem Housing Authority is not troubled.

Discussion

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i)

Introduction

The City of Bethlehem continues to cooperate with various social agencies, low-income housing advocates and affordable housing providers to address the underserved needs of area residents. Through the City's continued participation in regional housing forums, most notably the Lehigh Valley Local Housing Option Team, Bethlehem works with service providers, including the Northampton County and Lehigh County Homeless Assistance Programs (HAP) to address emergency shelter and transitional housing needs. The City participates in the Northeast Pennsylvania Continuum of Care and is represented by its Housing and Community Development Planner.

In order to effectively meet the demand for homeless services, Homeless Assistance Program (HAP) funds are block granted to all 67 Pennsylvania counties. HAP funds help assure: 1. homelessness can be avoided through a variety of prevention services assisting clients to maintain affordable housing; 2. people who are homeless can find refuge and care; and 3. homeless and near homeless clients are assisted in moving toward self-sufficiency. City residents in Northampton County can access services through the Northampton County Department of Human Services in Easton, while the residents within Lehigh County receive services through the Lehigh County Department of Aging and Adult Services in Allentown. In general, the City refers all applications for assistance, relative to homelessness, to the Northeast Continuum of Care.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

The City of Bethlehem participates in and supports regional efforts to contact and serve the homeless and at-risk populations. While no CDBG funds in 2019 are targeted for homeless assistance, city staff continues to participate in efforts that address and assess homeless populations throughout the Lehigh Valley.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

On an ongoing basis, the City's Community Development Program and Health Department lead a city homeless advisory group that meets quarterly to discuss needs and efforts. The group works very closely with the Bethlehem Emergency Sheltering Group, a small non-profit that has winter shelters set up in churches throughout the city.

Additionally, through the Northeast Pennsylvania Continuum of Care and County Homeless Assistance Programs, comprehensive and varied programs are available in Bethlehem and the region to assist the homeless make the transition to permanent housing and to address the special needs of persons who are not homeless.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

The larger population of homeless in the City of Bethlehem does not meet HUD's definition of chronically homeless. Instead they are individuals or families who increasingly cannot find affordable housing or are evicted from their homes.

Some forms of assistance relate to the individual or family's housing situation and referrals can be made to the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV), the National Alliance to End Homelessness, the National Coalition for the Homeless or specific programs of the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Additionally, Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley provides assistance in finding permanent, safe housing for victims of domestic violence and Valley Youth House assists with permanent housing solutions for homeless children.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

Several 2019 activities are aimed at preventing homelessness.

The City's owner-occupied housing rehab program helps keep homeowners in their homes and out of the homeless or social support system.

The Representative Payee Program operated by New Bethany Ministries combats homelessness by providing financial management services - including paying rent on time - to individuals with mental

health and other challenges.

The Salvation Army's rental assistance program was added this year as another means to prevent homelessness among rent-burdened households.

Additionally, the Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living's PLACE program helps locate housing for special needs residents.

Discussion

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)

Introduction:

The City of Bethlehem, as a participant in the HUD Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnership Programs, annually re-examines the area of “barriers to affordable housing”. The City makes changes to public policy and programs as necessary to remove barriers as they become evident. The City is currently drafting a new Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. This section of the Plan will be updated once it is finalized.

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

The City is aware of rising housing costs in the community and continues to fund its housing and economic development programs, assisting low income households to cope with these rising costs. The City of Bethlehem will continue to make certain its public policies are not discriminatory and consider policies in light of their impacts on housing affordability.

An examination of 2010 Census data documents that the number of minorities, Hispanics and African Americans, have increased throughout the City. The percentage of Hispanics has increased in seventeen (17) of the eighteen Census Tracts while African American percentages have increased in sixteen (16) of the eighteen (18) Tracts. Many of the Tracts with the smallest ratios of minorities in 2000 had the largest percentage increases in 2010. Clearly there are no discernable barriers to minorities in accessing housing throughout the City of Bethlehem.

Additionally, Bethlehem City staff is active on the steering committee for a program at the Lehigh Valley planning commission to draft model ordinances for municipalities that remove zoning/policy barriers to the creation of affordable housing.

Discussion:

In some cases the barriers to affordable housing are directly linked to Fair Housing. For Program Year 2020, the City of Bethlehem’s plans regarding fair housing are based on the Lehigh Valley’s recent Regional Analysis of Impediments. Those plans consist of:

Actions to be taken re Disparities in Mortgage Lending:

Bethlehem has joined other Lehigh Valley grantees in support of North Penn Legal Services, an

organization that provides Fair Housing information and advocacy in the region, and will continue to do so in the 2020 Program Year. While looking for ways to fund the recommended testing of lenders, North Penn Legal will continue its public Fair Housing education efforts, including a bus advertising campaign and a Fair Housing Forum. Topics will include information on filing complaints on housing issues, including possible lending discrimination. The City of Bethlehem will continue to actively support those efforts with CDBG funds and by linking the City website to the North Penn Legal Services website for Fair Housing information.

Actions to be taken re Need for Increased Fair Housing Education:

The City of Bethlehem will continue to partner with the other Lehigh Valley grantees to support North Penn Legal Services' fair housing efforts and to plan improvements to North Penn's Lehigh Valley Fair Housing Project. These improvements will center on reaching minority and disabled populations as well as landlords/property managers.

Through the Project, during the 2020 Program Year, the communities of the Lehigh Valley, including the City of Bethlehem, will:

Provide assistance to at least 60 residents to resolve potential fair housing violations (to include at least 15 Bethlehem residents);

Educate 500 residents, including at least 100 from Bethlehem, on fair housing rights and recourses;

Disseminate 800 copies of "The Right Stuff About Renting" to provide tenants with information about their rights, including those under fair housing laws;

Provide six training sessions for Realtors;

Offer outreach sessions and other educational opportunities to promote Fair Housing Awareness Month in April.

Actions to be taken re Need for Increased Coordination Among Fair Housing Providers

The City of Bethlehem will reach out to the Bethlehem Human Relations Commission to better integrate that body into the regional fair housing dialogue and Fair Housing Project.

Actions to be taken re Condition of Affordable Housing

During 2020, Bethlehem will continue activities that rehabilitate owner-occupied units and support efforts to rehabilitate vacant units for sale to eligible households.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

Whether fostering partnerships among Bethlehem’s various agencies and organizations or looking to continue to develop the City’s own staff or keeping on top of the latest tools to combat poverty, the City’s Community Development Program will continue going beyond minimum requirements and basic expectations for one simple reason – so many of our City’s most vulnerable residents deserve no less.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

The City has not identified any obstacles to meeting underserved needs except for lack of resources. Bethlehem plans to continue addressing that obstacle by continuing to pursue all appropriate funding opportunities for infrastructure, economic development, health care, education, public safety and all other aspects of our community's needs.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

As detailed in AP-38 - Projects - and AP-55 - Affordable Housing, Bethlehem is taking a number of steps to foster and maintain affordable housing, including subsidizing the creation of new affordable units, the purchase of units and the preservation of existing units.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The City Health Bureau will continue to test young children and pregnant women for blood lead levels as part of the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. If a child has an elevated blood lead level, an evaluation of the home is conducted. The blood-testing program is coupled with lead hazard education. Educational materials on the existence and dangers of lead in the home will continue to be widely distributed through the City's health clinic and the housing rehabilitation program. The literature includes information on lead abatement and removal. The City anticipates conducting an average of 200 elevated lead level tests each year.

Funding for lead abatement is available to income-eligible homeowners through the City of Bethlehem's Housing Rehabilitation program. The City has also received Healthy Homes funding, thus allowing CDBG/HOME funds to reach more properties. Any property owner in the City of Bethlehem can request a lead inspection of their property. The City assesses a fee for this service to cover the cost of the inspectors’ time. The City’s Health Bureau and the Housing Rehabilitation staff coordinate on issues where elevated blood lead levels are identified.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Poverty, of course, is a function of income, which is related to education, job training and employment opportunities. Over a prolonged period, the City of Bethlehem faced significant economic dislocation as a result of the closing of Bethlehem Steel. The City will pursue the continued redevelopment of the site, where significant job-producing re-uses have already taken root. Other plans for the site include possible conversion of an office building into condos and construction of retail space and other new housing construction.

The City of Bethlehem has a comprehensive economic development program in support of the goals outlined by the Lehigh Valley Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. Components of the economic development program include:

- Maintaining an inventory of available land and buildings
- Offering entrepreneurs and business owners technical assistance
- Offering Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA), a tax abatement program
- Providing tax credits for certain specified Pennsylvania taxes, and
- Assisting with substantial land development projects, urban renewal, and improvements through the Lehigh Valley Regional Loan Pool.

Recaptured CDBG funds, previously lent out for business development, will continue to support a revolving business loan fund. No 2020 CDBG funds are allocated to this effort because the program has virtually reached self-sufficiency.

The activities described above create job opportunities that help alleviate poverty in the community. The City of Bethlehem will continue to invest in job-creating activities with an emphasis on the hiring of low income residents and to pursue economic development in all forms to increase the supply of higher-paying jobs available to City residents.

In the award of contracts, the City will continue to implement the Section 3 Plan, which promotes the utilization of firms owned by or employing low income persons.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

Ongoing staff development, consultant input and community dialogue will continue to strengthen the program's strong performance over the past several years.

One new initiative for 2020 was a special training session with potential applicants to help them

understand the requirements of the CDBG and HOME programs prior to applying.

The Department also applies for and administers other funding sources, ensuring all resources are highly integrated and administered efficiently. The Department is responsible for the following:

- Program management and oversight
- Inter Department/Agency Coordination
- Sub-recipient contract administration and monitoring
- Program evaluation
- Report preparation and submission
- Public education and participation
- Special project development
- Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan preparation, monitoring, and evaluation
- Housing programs
- Economic development programs and initiatives

Beyond city staff, the Community Development Program will retain its strong relationships with other elements of the social safety net, including the governments of Lehigh and Northampton counties, the Bethlehem Housing Authority and a network of non-profit organizations.

Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies

As a common partner with so many of the public and private housing and social service providers, the Bethlehem Community Development Program has been a natural conduit for communication and interaction among these entities. The CD Program will continue to serve in that capacity while respecting the autonomy and uniqueness of each partner.

Discussion:

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

Introduction:

The City of Bethlehem has identified all CDBG and HOME activities to be undertaken in FY 2020 in the Projects Section, PR-35 and PR-38, including administrative, project delivery, public services, public facilities and infrastructure and affordable housing, both rehabilitation and new construction.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	0

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	0.00%

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)
Reference 24 CFR 91.220(l)(2)

1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is as follows:

The City of Bethlehem will not provide forms of assistance that are inconsistent with 24CFR 92.205 as detailed in 92.205(b) Forms of assistance (1) and (2). All assistance provided by the City under its Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program, Homeownership Opportunity Program, Non-profit acquisition, rehab and resale activities and New Construction Rental Housing Development activities meets these requirements.

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:

The City of Bethlehem operates two HOME-funded homebuyer programs, the Down payment and Closing Cost Assistance Program, which provides down payment and closing cost assistance for the purchase of existing units by eligible homebuyers.

For both programs, Bethlehem has selected the **RECAPTURE option** for enforcing the HOME-required period of affordability. Under the HOME affordability requirements, homebuyers are required to own and continue to occupy the HOME-assisted property as their principal residence, for the entire applicable period of affordability. In the event that the property is sold during the period of affordability, the PJ must be notified of the sale, and it can be sold to any willing buyer at any price, and a portion of the HOME subsidy will be recaptured, as outlined below.

Non-compliance:

Failure to comply with the recapture requirements means that 1) the original HOME-assisted homebuyer no longer occupies the unit as his or her principal residence (i.e., unit is rented or vacant), or 2) the home was sold during the period of affordability and the applicable recapture provisions were not enforced. If this noncompliance occurs, the buyer is responsible for repaying to the City the total amount of HOME funds invested in the housing (i.e., any HOME development subsidy to the developer plus any direct HOME subsidy, including down payment or other assistance (e.g., closing costs) provided to the homebuyer) minus any HOME funds already repaid (i.e., payment of principal on a HOME loan).

Monitoring:

The City will monitor compliance with the ownership and occupancy requirements by:

- Recording a mortgage on the property that will notify by way of title search any potential buyers of the HOME obligation;
- Requiring owners to periodically confirm their continued ownership of the property and its use as their principal residence;
- Receiving notification from the City's tax office of the transfer of all residential properties in the City and comparing it to the list of HOME-assisted properties.

Once the HOME affordability period is completed, the City of Bethlehem imposes an additional period of affordability which is enforced until the unit is sold, foreclosed or ownership is otherwise transferred.

The HOME program's investment, and thus the period of affordability, is ensured in all cases by a mortgage and note payable to the City of Bethlehem.

As the **RECAPTURE option** has been selected, subsequent homebuyers will not be limited to income-eligible households.

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:

The HOME program's investment, and thus the period of affordability, is ensured in all cases by a mortgage and note payable to the City of Bethlehem. The recapture amount will be the full amount of the initial HOME funds provided, subject to the amount of net proceeds available from the sale of the home. Net proceeds are defined as the sales price minus superior loan repayment (other than HOME funds) and any closing costs. Under no circumstances will recapture amount exceed what is available from the net proceeds of the sale. If there are insufficient net proceeds available to recapture the full amount of direct subsidy, then the owner is not required to repay the difference between the direct HOME subsidy due and the amount the City is able to recapture from the available net proceeds.

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

N/A

Attachments

Citizen Participation Comments

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-239

WHEREAS, Federal regulations require the City of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, as a HUD entitlement community, to prepare a Five Year Consolidated Plan and an Annual Action Plan as part of the Consolidated Plan process; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bethlehem has prepared a Five Year Consolidated Plan for the period January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bethlehem has prepared an Annual Action Plan for the period from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bethlehem made both documents available for public display for the required 30 day comment period from October 4, 2019 through November 3, 2019.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM:

1. That the Five Year Consolidated Plan for FY 2020-2024 and the Annual Action Plan for FY 2020 for the City of Bethlehem for the period from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020, are hereby approved.
2. That the Mayor of the City of Bethlehem is authorized to provide the necessary assurances and certifications to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and to submit the FY 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and FY 2020 Action Plan for HUD approval.

Sponsored by /s/ Michael G. Colón

/s/ Paige Van Wirt

ADOPTED by Council this 6th day of November, 2019.

/s/ Adam R. Waldron
President of Council

ATTEST:

/s/ Robert G. Vidoni, Esq.
City Clerk



City of Bethlehem

Consolidated Plan 2020-2024

Public Hearing #1 | August 27, 2019 6:30PM

Name	Email Address	Affiliation
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City of Bethlehem

Consolidated Plan 2020-2024
Public Hearing #1 | August 27, 2019 6:30PM

CDBG Background

Beginning in 1974, the CDBG program is one of the longest continuously run programs at HUD. The CDBG program provides annual grants on a formula basis to 1,209 general units of local government and States. CDBG is a flexible program that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of community development needs.

The City of Bethlehem is an entitlement community which means it receives annual grants on a formula basis. The program is authorized under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, Public Law 93-383, as amended.

The objectives of the CDBG program are to:

- Maintain decent housing;
 - Provide residents with a suitable living environment; and
 - Expand economic opportunities. Consolidated Planning Process
- Every 5 years the City must complete a Consolidated Plan to set priorities for the use of CDBG funds;

Every year the City prepares an Action Plan to describe to the public (and HUD) how it intends to spend its annual allocation. Every five years, the City prepares a Consolidated Plan to set goals and objectives for the next 5 years. Subsequent Annual Action Plans must adhere to the goals of the Consolidated Plan. The City of Bethlehem intends to submit its Consolidated Plan before November 15, 2019.

FY 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan Goals

The goals of the most recent Consolidated Plan were:

1	Increase the supply of affordable rental housing
2	Improve the condition of owner-occupied housing
3	Increase home ownership opportunities
5	Economic Development and Job Creation
6	Improvements to Public Facilities & Infrastructure
7	Preserve the supply of affordable rental housing
8	Increase Services for Homeless and Special Needs
9	Support Public Services
10	Administer CDBG & HOME programs

National Objectives

Each CDBG Activity must meet one of the 3 National Objectives

1. Benefit Low and Moderate Income (LMI) Persons
2. Prevent or Eliminate Blight
3. Meet an Urgent Need

Eligible Uses of Funds

CDBG funds may be used for, but are not limited to:

- Acquisition of real property;
- Relocation and demolition;
- Rehabilitation of residential and non-residential structures;
- Construction of public facilities and improvements, such as water and sewer facilities, streets, neighborhood centers, and the conversion of school buildings for eligible purposes;
- Public services, within certain limits;
- Activities relating to energy conservation and renewable energy resources; and
- Provision of assistance to profit-motivated businesses to carry out economic development and job creation/retention activities.

Ineligible

Generally, the following types of activities are ineligible:

- Acquisition, construction, or reconstruction of buildings for the general conduct of government;
- Political activities;
- Certain income payments; and
- Construction of new housing by units of local government

HOME Investment Partnerships Program

Housing Programs – provide safe and decent housing for low and moderate income households.

- Rental Housing
- Owner-Occupied Housing
- Homebuyer Assistance
- Rehabilitation
- New Construction

Community Housing Development Organization

- Community-based
- Focus on housing
- Board composed of community residents



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Express Times
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AO#: 0008338537

Total

\$184.80

State of Pennsylvania,) ss

County of Northampton

Amanda Duane being duly sworn, deposes that he/she is principal clerk of NJ Advance Media; that Express Times is a public newspaper, with general circulation in Lehigh and Northampton Counties, and this notice is an accurate and true copy of this notice as printed in said newspaper, was printed and published in the regular edition and issue of said newspaper on the following date(s):
Express Times 09/26/2019

Amanda Duane

Principal Clerk of the Publisher

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 20th day of September 2019

Cathy D. Stephano
Notary Public

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal
Cathy D. Stephano, Notary Public
Northampton County
My commission expires April 24, 2022
Commission # 1230207
Member, Pennsylvania Association of Notaries

**CIUDAD DE BETHLEHEM
AVISO PÚBLICO**

**PROGRAMA DE SUBVENCIONES DEL BLOQUE DE DESARROLLO COMUNITARIO
PROGRAMA DE ASOCIACIÓN DE INVERSIÓN EN EL HOGAR (HOME)
2020-2024 PLAN CONSOLIDADO DE CINCO AÑOS**

Período de revisión de 30 días

Por la presente se notifica que la Ciudad de Bethlehem, PA ha completado su primer borrador del Plan Consolidado Quinquenal 2020-2024 para los Programas de Subvenciones por Bloques de Desarrollo Comunitario (COBG) y Asociación de Inversión en el Hogar (HOME).

Un período de 30 días de revisión pública y comentario comenzará el 4 de octubre de 2019 al 6 de noviembre de 2019, período durante el cual el proyecto de plan estará a disposición del público para su revisión en la Oficina de Desarrollo Comunitario en el Ayuntamiento, 141 East Church Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018 de 8:00 am a 4:30 pm de lunes a viernes. Se invita al público a dirigir comentarios escritos a Alicia Kerner en la misma dirección.

El 14 de octubre de 2019, a las 11:30 a.m., en el Ayuntamiento de Bethlehem, una instalación totalmente accesible, se celebrará una audiencia pública sobre el proyecto de plan.

Las necesidades deben abordarse a través del Plan Consolidado y los planes de acción anuales subsiguientes incluyen vivienda asequible, servicios públicos, mejoras en las instalaciones/infraestructuras y el desarrollo económico.

Este aviso se emite de acuerdo con las regulaciones COBG y HOME. La ciudad de Bethlehem no discrimina por motivos de discapacidad.

POR ORDEN DE LA CIUDAD DE BETHLEHEM
Robert Sanchez, Alcalde

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State of Pennsylvania, ss
County of Northampton)

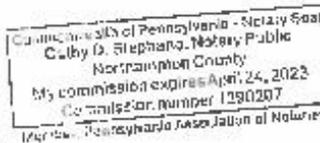
Amber Nelson being duly sworn, deposes that Ivelise is principal clerk of NJ Advance Media; that Express Times is a public newspaper, with general circulation in Lehigh and Northampton Counties, and this notice is an accurate and true copy of this notice as printed in said newspaper, was printed and published in the regular edition and issue of said newspaper on the following date(s):
Express Times 08/13/2019

Amber Nelson

Principal Clerk of the Publisher

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13th day of August 2019

Cathy D. Stephano
Notary Public



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT and
HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS
CITY OF BETHLEHEM**

The City of Bethlehem is initiating planning for the 2020-2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Consolidated Plan and the 2020 Annual Action Plan as part of its application for funding to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Community Development Block Grant for FY 2020 is estimated at \$1,300,000 and HOME funds are estimated to be \$400,000. Funds may be used to assist persons with low to moderate incomes, remove slums and blight, or address urgent needs.

The first public hearing will be held Tuesday, August 27, 2019, at 8:30 p.m. at the City of Bethlehem's Town Hall, 10 East Church Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018. Citizens are invited to provide written or verbal comments at or prior to the hearing. Information will be made available to citizens regarding application procedures, timing, eligible activities, and other regulations related to the CDBG and HOME Programs.

Areas of particular interest includes comments regarding homeless prevention services, homeless shelters and transitional housing, affordable housing development, housing and services for those with special needs, community services for the low and moderate income community, economic development and public facilities/infrastructure in low and moderate income neighborhoods. Representatives from the City will also be available to answer questions that may arise at this hearing or any of the work sessions.

The draft five-year Consolidated Plan (2020-2024) and the 2020 Annual Action Plan, will be prepared following the public hearing and various work sessions. These documents will be available for public review for 30 days starting October 4, 2019 in order to meet the filing and submission requirements established by HUD. The City will hold a second public hearing on October 10, 2019 to receive comments on the proposed Plans prior to finalizing these documents.

Comments can be sent to the Department of Community & Economic Development, City Hall, 10 E. Church Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018.

Applications for FY 2020 CDBG and HOME funds will be received by the Department of Community and Economic Development until September 6, 2019.

BY ORDER OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM
Robert J. Donchez, Mayor

**AVISO DE AUDIENCIAS PÚBLICAS
BLOQUEO DE DESARROLLO COMUNITARIO GRANT y
PROGRAMAS DE SOCIO DE INVERSIONES DE HOGAR
CIUDAD DE BETHLEHEM**

La Ciudad de Bethlehem está iniciando la planificación del 2020-2024 Plan Consolidado de Subvenciones para el Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG) Plan Consolidado y el Plan de Acción Anual 2020 como parte de su solicitud de financiamiento al Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de los Estados Unidos (HUD). La Subvención del Bloque de Desarrollo Comunitario para el año 2020 se estima en \$1,300,000 y los fondos HOME se estiman en \$400,000. Los fondos pueden utilizarse para ayudar a las personas con ingresos bajos a moderados, eliminar barrios marginales y la plaga, o atender las necesidades urgentes.

La primera audiencia pública se llevará a cabo el martes 27 de agosto de 2019, a las 8:30 p.m. en el Ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de Bethlehem, 10 East Church Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018. Se invita a los ciudadanos a proporcionar comentarios escritos o verbales en o antes de la audiencia. La información se encontrará en...



disposición de los ciudadanos con respecto a los procedimientos de solicitud, el momento, las actividades elegibles y otras regulaciones relacionadas con los Programas CDBG y HOME.

Los áreas de particular interés incluyen comentarios sobre los servicios de prevención de personas sin hogar, los refugios para personas sin hogar y la vivienda de transición, el desarrollo de viviendas asequibles, la vivienda y los servicios para personas con necesidades especiales, los servicios comunitarios para la comunidad de ingresos, el desarrollo económico y las instalaciones/infraestructuras públicas en los barrios de ingresos bajos y moderados. Los representantes de la Ciudad también estarán disponibles para responder a las preguntas que puedan surgir en esta audiencia o en cualquiera de las sesiones de trabajo.

El proyecto de Plan Conectado Quinquenal (2020-2024) y el Plan de Acción Anual 2020 se prepararán después de la audiencia pública y de varias sesiones de trabajo. Estos documentos estarán disponibles para su revisión pública durante 30 días a partir del 4 de octubre de 2019 con el fin de cumplir con los requisitos de tiempo y presentación establecidos por HUD. La ciudad celebrará una segunda audiencia pública el 30 de octubre de 2019 para recibir comentarios sobre los Planes propuestos antes de finalizar estos documentos.

Los comentarios se pueden enviar al Departamento de Desarrollo Comunitario y Económico, Ayuntamiento, 10 E. Church Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018.

Las solicitudes para los fondos del Año fiscal 2020 CDBG y HOME serán recibidas por el Departamento de Desarrollo Comunitario y Económico hasta el 8 de septiembre de 2019.

POR ORDEN DE LA CIUDAD DE BETHLEHEM
Robert J. Donchez, Alcalde

Appendix - Alternate/Local Data Sources